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JOHN BULL

Vol. XIV. No. 348. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1913. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For Missing of this No. see Page 178.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

YOUR LAST CHANCE

TO WIN

£5 A WEEK FOR LIFE!

FINAL ENTRY FORM
On page 171.

CAN MUSIC BE SELF TAUGHT?

A Library of Musical Instruction.

Many musically inclined people have hitherto been deterred from taking music up seriously by the expense and inconvenience of taking lessons from a music master. To such people the publication of "The Musical Educator" comes as a great boon. For "The Musical Educator" provides in compact and interesting form a complete and systematic education in music. It is written throughout by experts and is an authoritative guide to everything relating to music and singing. The illustrations are particularly valuable; they portray the different instruments, attitudes in playing, etc., and include five beautiful frontispieces and reproductions of valuable photographs.

We would especially draw attention to the following names of leaders in the musical world, and of the subjects for which they are responsible:—

PADEREWSKI.
"On the Best Way to Study the Piano."
MARK HAMBOURG.
"The Piano and How to Play It."
EDWIN H. LEMARE.
"The Art of Organ-Playing."
CARUSO.
"On the Cultivation of the Voice."
CLARA BUTT.
"On How to Sing a Song."
MADAME MARCHESI.
"The Teaching of Singing."
JOHN DUNN.
"On Playing the Violin."
Sir F. H. COWEN.
"The Art of Conducting."

The titles of a few of the sections are appended; every section is written by an expert.

Course on Voice Training, Singing, and Soleggio. Course on the Pianoforte. On the Violin. On Harmonium and American Organ. On the Organ. Lessons on Scientific Basis of Music. On Rudiments of Music. Course on Harmony and Counterpoint. Lessons in Canon and Fugue. Lessons in Musical Forms, Analysis and Composition. Articles on the Instruments used in Orchestras and in Bands. History of Music. Articles on Children's Music and Musical Drill, on Choir Training and Conducting. Article on Congregational Music. Biographical Dictionary of Musicians. Article on Musical Degrees. Nationality in Music.

TWO OPINIONS.

SIR J. FREDERICK BRIDGE, Mus. Doc., Organist of Westminster Abbey:

"'The Musical Educator' is full of useful information plainly set forth. The musical illustrations are excellent."

MR. CHAS. J. WINYARD, 29, Aberdeen Terrace, Tyne Dock:

"I find it of inestimable value in the education of my children, and also of great benefit to myself. The lessons are so graded that anyone should be able to make himself efficient by their study."

A FREE BOOKLET.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
(4) Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, your illustrated prospectus of "The Musical Educator," and particulars of your plan by which the five volumes are delivered for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance being paid by small monthly payments.

Name .....
(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address .....

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HOW TO KEEP IN GOOD HEALTH.

A GREAT WORK.

By Dr. Andrew Wilson.

In these days of unsettled weather and raging epidemics anything that will help one to keep in good health and ward off illness is a thing greatly to be desired, and Dr. Andrew Wilson has written a book specially to fulfil this purpose.

It is called "The Modern Physician," and the information it gives can often prove invaluable in the home.

The section devoted to Hygiene, otherwise known as Preventive Medicine, includes the full exposition of the laws of health, and special attention is devoted to physical culture. The important subject of First Aid and

AMBULANCE WORK

is fully treated and lavishly illustrated.

Since a knowledge of the many and marvellous functions of the body in health is necessary to a due understanding of the body when the various organs become deranged by disease, descriptions of every part of the frame will be found in "The Modern Physician," the skeleton muscles, digestive system, heart and lungs, brain and nervous system, organs of sense, skin, kidneys, etc., etc., being fully explained and illustrated.

In this connection the coloured "manikins" or "dummies," in which the various organs overlap each other precisely as they do in the human body, are very useful in making the reading matter clear.

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THE HEALTH OF WOMEN.

Volume V. deals entirely with the Health and Diseases of Women. It will be found useful to mothers who wish their daughters to grow up into healthy women. Midwifery and the diseases of infants and children are fully treated.

There is a section devoted to Invalid Cookery, and a complete series of physicians' prescriptions will be found both reliable and useful.

MR. WM. WEBB, 102, Queensland Street, Liverpool, writes:

"'The Modern Physician' ought to be in every household in the land, and it is certainly no fault of yours should it not be so, for the price at which it is published is reasonable, and the terms of subscription exceptionally easy."

MR. A. H. HART, 18, Cranbury Park Road, Kingston-on-Thames:

"Three things especially impressed me—the up-to-date character of the work, the simplicity of the language used, and its practical value. It is creditable alike to Editor and Publisher."

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Name .....
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IS BALZAC IMMORAL?

An Unexpurgated Edition.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the recent announcement of an edition of that great French author, Balzac, in its complete and unexpurgated form caused a considerable stir in certain quarters.

Fortunately, however, the publication is now an accomplished fact. For, though the prurient-minded may see wrong where none is meant—and Balzac certainly did write of nature as he found it—it would have been a thousand pities if the public had been deprived of this, its first chance of reading Balzac as he meant to be read.

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And all those who realise this will hasten to take advantage of the offer of his Best Novels in 14 volumes, specially selected by that famous Balzacian, Mr. Clement Shorter, Editor of the *Sphere*.

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Cousin Bette.	The Lily of the Valley.
Cousin Pons.	The Illustrious Gaudissart.
La Duchesse de Langeais.	The Village Cure.
The House of the Cat and Racket.	The Country Doctor.
Gobseck.	The Magic Skin.
Old Goriot.	The Unknown Masterpiece.
Eugenie Grandet.	

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"Something has been said of the fact that the publishers advertise that their Balzac is 'unexpurgated.' This is of the utmost importance. The charge that a translator 'betrays' is justified where there is a prurient attempt to mollify and alter phrases in the interests of Mrs. Grundy. Nothing can justify that. When face to face with a great classic we want the book as near as possible as the author presented it.

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The whole forms 14 fine volumes, handsomely bound in green and gold. The illustrations are by many of the foremost French artists, and the frontispieces are etchings printed from copper-plates. The originals were exhibited in the Salon.

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Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, detailed prospectus of "Balzac's Best Novels," with terms of easy payments.

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JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XIV. No. 348. Week ending Saturday, February 1st, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All FINANCIAL, INSURANCE and SPORTING *enquiries should be addressed to the* CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C. *All other communications should be addressed to* 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Messrs. Odhams, Ltd., 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for JANUARY 25th, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number 632,232.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL,"
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The John Bull League.

The President,

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY,

WILL ADDRESS A PUBLIC MEETING
AT THE BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL,
(TO-NIGHT) THURSDAY.

Doors open 7 p.m. ADMISSION FREE. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m.
ORGAN RECITAL at 7.10 p.m. by Mr. R. A. E. PAYNE.
The John Bull League Songs will be sung by Mr. JOHN ROUND.
Admission to the Hall, at 7.30 p.m., may be obtained upon the production of a copy of "John Bull."

The PRESIDENT
WILL ADDRESS A PUBLIC MEETING
AT THE FREE TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER,
ON FRIDAY, 14th FEBRUARY.

Doors open 7 p.m. ADMISSION FREE. Chair to be taken by Councillor H. ROSS CLYNE at 8 p.m. ORGAN RECITAL, 7.10 to 8 p.m. Tickets may be obtained from the Local Secretary, Mr. F. WARDLE, 5, Woodlands Road, Gorton, Manchester; the Local Chairman, Mr. J. ROSS CLYNE 4, Wilmsholm Place, Rusholme Road, Manchester; or from the General Secretary, John Bull League, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Mr. Asquith.

We have reason to believe that at an early date Mr. Asquith will go to the House of Lords, leaving the leadership of the Commons in the hands of either Sir Edward Grey or Mr. Lloyd George.

Sir Percy Scott.

Up to the time of going to press the new Baronet has made no reply to the very grave allegations we have made regarding him—and thus he stands self-condemned as unfit to hold a commission in the King's Navy. In another column we have a few words with him on the situation.

A Peep.

The debate on the Suffragette amendment to the Franchise Bill—being "open and unfettered"—afforded the public a glimpse of that harmony which we are always being assured exists in the Cabinet. *We shall soon see more.*

A Callous Claim.

When the land taxes were before Parliament, and discussion was being closured, in accordance with modern parliamentary methods, Mr. Lloyd George gave a definite undertaking that the Government were taxing "site value" only, for increment purposes. Now he coolly and callously declares that *any* profit, whether on site value or not, is a "fortuitous windfall" also to be taxed. This is both bad faith and bad fact.

Modern Moral Degeneracy.

Has it ever occurred to you that much of the moral degeneracy and abnormality of the present day is the indirect outcome of so-called puritanism? The John Knox legislation had precisely the same effect on sixteenth-century Scotland—just as more recent grandmotherly and morbid State "protection" has had upon Wales. Yes, it is time the John Bull League got to work again.

The Party Press.

Just a few headlines respecting the Flint election. The *Daily News*—"Mr. Parry successful with good majority"; *Daily Express*—"Majority halved"; *Daily Chronicle*—"Notable victory for Welsh Liberalism"; *Telegraph*—"Reduced majority." Of course, the simple truth is that, as in the case of the other bye-elections, the pendulum is slowly and surely swinging against the Government of the day—as it invariably does, except in times of war fever.

Coming Events?

Much fun is being made in a North-East London borough at the expense of the local L.C.C. member, who is on the Claybury Asylum Committee, and who recently sent a wire to a meeting at which he should have been present—"Detained at Claybury." Additional point is given to the joke by the fact that many of the votes of the member in question have been marked by a large degree of eccentricity.

Our League Campaign.

We this week renew the active campaign of the John Bull League—starting in our Midland stronghold, at Birmingham, and following up with meetings all over the United and dis-United Kingdom. People who doubt the strength of our movement should just look in at one of our gatherings—they will not be able to do more unless they get to the hall very early. Quite apart, however, from what we may fairly call our educational propaganda, we hope to give a few practical object-lessons during the year. You remember East Bristol?

Your LAST CHANCE to Win our £5 a Week for Life.

Turkey's Swan-Song.

It would be almost comical, if it were not tragic, that war should break out again just as all were rubbing their hands and proclaiming that peace was assured. The explanation of the sudden drama at Constantinople is that the "Young Turks" scent the approaching downfall of the Empire and want to have a last look-in to see if any pickings remain. As they were mainly responsible for the wooden bullets and absence of commissariat, our only wonder is that they were not all shot long ago. However, it may not be too late for patriots to do their duty.

'What Peace———?"

With the conclusion of an alleged peace, fresh troubles must begin for the Balkans. We are reminded of the fairy-tale, in which the Dodo exclaimed: "Everybody has won and everybody must have prizes." But what clamours there will be when the prizes come to be distributed! Bulgaria will want to dominate the Balkans, but Servia and Greece are bound to resist all such ambitions; and if Roumania is not satisfied about her frontier she is now quite strong enough to march to Sofia. To parody an old saw—if you desire war, then prepare a peace.

The Tricky Turk.

The foresight of the Turks cannot have been so bad as most people pretend. How many French or even German fortresses are now sufficiently well-victualled to stand a siege of two or three months? Yet the Turkish delegates have delayed rather than expedited negotiations in London. The conclusion is that they have no particular anxiety about Adrianople. And here is a curious coincidence. As soon as the Allies announced that they intended to enter Constantinople and hold a mass in the Mosque of S. Sophia, the Turks were said to be dying of cholera like flies, and to have turned S. Sophia into a hospital. The bold Bulgarians, fearing infection, hastily concluded an armistice. Then the cholera suddenly ceased. What a diplomatic miracle!

The Vicar of Fenton.

Since our "Open Letter" to the Vicar of Fenton, who won't marry people who have sinned, we have received much correspondence agreeing with our view of that priestly bigot. By the bye, he says such candidates for matrimony forget that marriage is a sacrament, though he should know very well that it is not, according to the Articles of Religion signed and sworn to by himself. "Those five," says Article 25, "commonly called (by the Church of Rome) Sacraments, that is to say . . . Matrimony . . . are not to be counted for Sacraments." Is it an act of Christian conscience to subscribe to things which you do not believe?

Funeral Advertising.

If what a Newcastle-on-Tyne reader tells us can be relied on, the funeral at Whitley Bay of the Russian seamen who lost their lives in the wreck of the *California*, off St. Mary's Island, was apparently mainly arranged to advertise a South Shields undertaker. We are told that the *cortège* was led by "a rusty-coloured, dejected-looking animal pulling a covered-in four-wheeled vehicle which turned out to be the usual vehicle used by undertakers in conveying a coffin to the house, only in this case all the sides had the name of the undertaker and what he did, such as embalming, etc., in heavy gilt writing. . . ." The undertaker was evidently desirous of letting the crowd know what he could do for them in case of necessity. All the same, it is amazing that a public funeral of this kind should have been degraded by such an exhibition of the new advertising.

Bath Doctor's Circular.

A panel doctor at Bath has issued a circular containing these questions to the patients he has accepted:—"Name in full? Address? Age? Occupation? Married or single? Name and number of Society? Previous health? Short account of any illness you may have had? Habits? Tobacco? Abstainer or not? If subject to sore throat or tonsilitis? Cold or bronchitis? Short breath on walking? Indigestion? Constipation? Skin trouble? Nerve trouble? Fits? Short account family history, father, mother, etc.? (Please write particulars at back.) Send sample of urine in clean bottle and labelled with name and address." Evidently our medical friend has no time to waste on his diagnosis and has rented a warehouse to store samples.

Beware!

Every day we are becoming more alarmed. Not many weeks ago, somebody spied an alleged German aircraft sailing over Portsmouth or Sheerness, or somewhere, in the witching hour of night—vanishing into space before dawn. Now somebody else—the Chief Constable of Glamorganshire, to wit—has seen another mysterious aircraft passing over Cardiff in the dusk—in the direction of Swansea, "leaving a dense volume of smoke in its wake." Evidently the Horror of Horrors is coming nearer and nearer; and as sure as sure can be, one of these foggy mornings, sooner or later, our Mary Ann will open the hall door to take in the milk and find herself confronted with the Only Kaiser and a squad of the Imperial Guard, demanding admission to breakfast. They will come over in a Number 2680 Zeppelin (all the others having exploded with a loud report and dropped in the deep sea with a deadly splash), but if the invaders get back in the same boat it won't be our fault. Mary Ann will have particular instructions to put something fatal on their bacon.

Board of Trade and Inventors.

In August last the Board of Trade issued a notice, through the Press, that they would be pleased to consider efficient methods of stowing, launching and propelling ships' boats. Inventors were invited to submit their schemes by October 1st. One of our readers—an ex-seafaring man—went to considerable expense and trouble in preparing designs and making models, but when he naturally wished to place them before the Committee, he found that he could not get an interview. We have much sympathy for our friend, but we would remind him of what we have repeatedly said with reference to the Admiralty, War Office and Board of Trade—namely, that if we had a valuable invention we should not think of offering it to either of them. Life is far too short.

Where There's a Will.

It is not often that any good comes from a Royal Commission, but that on Public Records has been instructive in some ways. For instance, we learn that though Somerset House is not fireproof, the staff are allowed to smoke; also that they devote much of their time to literary research, which can scarcely increase their strict attention to duty. At Hereford, wills are kept in a damp place and are in a shocking condition. Incompetent persons are allowed to tamper with them. The obvious intention is that they shall be restored to legibility, but the practice might easily lead to forgery or fraud. We often wonder why access to wills is permitted to inquisitive people or others who cannot show that they are directly interested. The publication of wills by newspapers should certainly be discouraged, as it must often be embarrassing for heirs to have their private affairs proclaimed to the world.

Increased Again! "Bullets" Prizes, value £1,655 this Week.

The Judge and the Hog.

Mr. Justice Darling certainly had a field day in the case of the nurse against the Industrial Dwellings Company of Golder's Green. In the course of the hearing appeared Miss Hogg, the lady superintendent, to deny and repudiate the ptomainous mutton. She mentioned that the programme of dishes at the flats was fairly regular. "So it was at the Temple when I used to dine there," said his lordship; "and when boiled pork, pease pudding and parsnips were in the list I used carefully to avoid them." It does not seem exactly in accord with the rules of evidence that his lordship should have expressed his contempt for pig while hearing the testimony of Miss Hogg. If this semi-official utterance is permitted to pass without protest, we shall presently have his lordship interposing in a case to express his strong objections to spring onions and his extreme partiality for red herrings.

Picture Palace Jesters.

Among the avowed objects of the self-constituted censors of films is to prevent "the exhibition of persons in authority in a ridiculous light." Surely this is an unnecessary interference with the public sense of humour. Take France, which is a far more tyrannical and oligarchical state than our own. Every music-hall, every night, exhibits persons in authority, not excepting the President, in a very ridiculous, not to say offensive and even obscene, light. Yet no one minds. Indeed, the greatest admirers of the persons in authority are the first to laugh. The gibes are tolerated in the same spirit as those of Court jesters in olden days. Again, this particular censorship is unnecessary over here, because the public would be easily offended and it would not pay the entertainers to disregard their prejudices. The best censorship is exercised automatically by the audience.

Beneficence and Nightshirts.

On behalf of gentlemen residing in the casual ward of Winchester Workhouse, and of several others who hope to do so in the future, as in the past, we are requested to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the local lady guardian whose beneficent agitation has resulted in the decision of her colleagues to make the nightshirts of the casuals six inches longer. As the lady cogently argued, six inches on the *robes de nuit* will deliver their wearers from the agonies of cold feet. *Exp. doc.* Probably the lady herself has had an ice time of it through excessive shortness in the nightie.

The "Reduction" of Germany.

If we may trust the statement of a contemporary, the Germans are rapidly becoming thinner. It is suggested that they are consumed with a desire to appear as much like Englishmen as possible. We know that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, but we find it hard to believe that the underlying motive is a complimentary one. True, it is possible to admire without loving; but a more feasible explanation occurs to us. In view of the approach of the "Day," may not they be anxious to reduce their bulk so as to present a smaller mark for our bullets?

Eloquent Figures.

Town Topics—a rather goody-goody Edmonton (Canada) publication, and not our pink London friend—publishes a somewhat illuminating report of the Beulah Mission, containing the following items regarding the work of the Rescue Home: "No. of girls found employment, 22; No. of girls 'professed conversion,' 22." Nuf said!

Facetious Examiners.

A General Knowledge Paper, recently set at a public school, has been sent us by a correspondent. Here are some specimen questions:

Why does a bad egg smell?
Why does a kettle sing?
Where does the wind go to?

Everyone knows that an egg recites unpleasant truths if allowed an undue length of life: that a kettle—emulating the bravado of Mark Tapley—sings merrily when a part of its anatomy is subjected to heat: and that the unreliable and mysterious character of the wind, as given in the Scriptures, has never been confuted. But why youthful minds should have been selected for the exploitation of this elementary humour passes our understanding. We would ask the examiners, "Why do donkeys eat thistles?" and, to save them unnecessary thinking, we will tell them—"Because they *are* donkeys." Which perhaps would not be an unsuitable answer to the query: "Why did they set these questions?"

"Scalping the Stubborn-Haired."

A reader tells us that the "Wavcurl" Hair Curling Fluid, for the mere prescription of which the public—expecting a bottle of the stuff—were induced to send 1s. 1d. P.O. to the New Wavcurl Co., Barwick Street, Scarborough, as mentioned in a recent issue, is nothing new, although stated to have been "discovered by John Turrell at great cost," and that, despite the reward offered "for information leading to the conviction of persons pirating," it is merely one of many prescriptions contained in a sixpenny "Guide to Beauty." The people who work this ramp should certainly be sent to one of the places where the care of the hair is gratuitously undertaken.

Beware of Book-lenders.

We are not scare-mongers, but we want to warn our readers against lending-libraries, especially at the seaside. No doubt it is a temptation to borrow novels for a penny a week, but the books, if at all popular, are disgustingly grimy and must often have passed through the hands of persons suffering from infectious diseases. We verily believe that they may prove more dangerous carriers of disease than the promiscuity of omnibuses or the lingering delights of consumptives' kisses. That is why, like Captain and Mrs. Trevanion, we enter our caveat.

Who Goes to Siberia?

This is the opening of a letter which has just reached us from Rodickville, Ontario, Canada: "Just a few lines to let you know I am still in the land of the living, but nearly froze to death, as we have got winter on us with a vengeance, as it has been snowing and blowing and freezing all day, and that cold a fellow don't know what to do for himself, and the bush is getting cleared round here, and it gets colder and colder every year. It will soon be as bad as Siberia." Now, will some official Emigration Commissioner or Shipping Agent kindly say that our correspondent is inaccurate and that, on the contrary, Ontario is one of the nicest and warmest and most comfortable fortune-making Eldorados on earth?

French Logic.

A French magistrate recently observed that most husbands were notoriously unfaithful to their wives. Later on, he argued in favour of wives who shoot unfaithful husbands. Ergo, most French wives ought to shoot their husbands. This argument should find approval in Germany.

A Plain and STRAIGHT Offer—£5 a Week for Life. See page 171.

Voters' Disqualifications.

The child of a poor man was suffering from "bronchial pneumonia." As the father was earning a small wage, and had a wife and four other children to support, he thought it best to send the child to the local infirmary, so as to ensure that it would get the necessary care, attention and nourishment. He offered to pay a small sum while it was in the institution, and to make up the cost of the balance of its maintenance later on. "If your child goes to the infirmary you will lose your vote," said an official. Needless to say, the man was amazed at this statement, and thought that in view of the fact that he was going to pay, it must be incorrect. Unfortunately, the law is so—the Courts having decided that the disqualification arising from relief given to a child is not removed by a subsequent payment to the guardians of the cost of such relief. Under a Business Government such a state of affairs would soon be altered.

A Scarborough Aquapuritan.

Councillor Hopwood, of Scarborough, observing on the minutes of the Sanitary and Lighting Committee an invoice of 8s. for bottled stout, "ordered by the Medical Officer of Health in extreme cases of phthisis in the sanatorium," has been telling his colleagues that he will "have it out with the Medical Officer." The argument of the Councillor is that "if phthisis patients get a liberal supply of stout in the sanatorium, they may when they leave desire to continue to take the same kind of medicine." They may—and here's to them.

Sold Out Again.

From about sixteen different places in this fair land we have received information that the local postmaster has run out of sixpenny postal orders. Had not the Postmaster-General better put out his hand to feel whether or not he is in bed? If not, he will get the "Bullet."

The Georgian Yoke.

Mrs. Josephine Gordon, of The Lodge, Bolton Road, Grove Park, Chiswick, must be one of the most heroic of her sex. "Wanted," so runs her advertisement in the local newspaper, "addresses of Chiswick doctors who have not signed the panel, as Mrs. Gordon refuses to see any doctor who has put his neck under the yoke of Lloyd George." It does not, however, seem to be a question of refusing at all, for it is self-evident that none of the Chiswick doctors with his neck under the yoke can come.

Envelope Addressing at Ware.

It is advisable that the master of the workhouse at Ware, one Mr. F. W. Brooks, should be as civil as possible to his customers even when they depart. Because he chances to have had some differences with an inmate who was discharged from the sick ward by the Medical Officer, that is no reason why he should send an envelope through the post addressed, "Mr. Robert Jenner, former indoor pauper of Ware Union Workhouse, Hunsden, near Ware." He had better alter his style of envelope addressing instanter, or one of these days he will seek trouble, and lo! he will find it.

Us and It.

Here is flattering unction for our soul from the *Montreal Gazette*: Having mentioned the rumour of a forthcoming Carmelite publication in rivalry to *Punch*, it remarks: "If the venture is to succeed, the men behind it will have to spend much money on talent before they convince the Englishmen of its worth. *Punch* is as much an institution as JOHN BULL." Well—almost

"One Good Turn——"

Apropos of our recent reference to the offer by the worthy Wragg, of York, of the sum of 20s. to each of twenty boozers, providing they do not come before the "beaks" for twelve months, we are now authoritatively informed by the sons of Bacchus that they propose offering the Alderman a similar amount on the condition that he in turn satisfies them that during a similar period he has gone home without showing any signs of having had a dirty night.

Taking the Bun.

At Exeter the other day, a Mr. George McLaren prosecuted two hungry kiddies—girls, 10 and 9 years of age—for stealing a ha'penny bun from his shop in Alphington Street "because he had been losing things from his shop for the last two or three months—he had recently lost a dough cake." Of course it was very wrong of the babies to take advantage of the absence of Mr. McLaren, who is a local preacher and varies his occupation as a confectioner by conducting funerals at 3s. per corpse, by feloniously converting one of his ha'penny buns to their own use, but as his shop is within about a minute's walk from the poorest part of the city, he might at least have given them the benefit of the probability that their little tummies were the real transgressors. They took one bun; we hereby award Mr. McLaren another—and a biscuit.

A Guernsey Query.

"Could you inform me," says "Guernsey," (1) "if England is a free country or not, and (2) what is considered to constitute a free country? Trusting I am not asking too much." No, we cannot conscientiously say he is asking too much, and for this reason we are delighted to oblige. (1) England is not a free country. (2) A free country is a country where everything is free. In England you have to pay for everything you get; also for a lot you don't. Next, please.

Muscular Christianity at Llangunnock.

Trouble is brewing in Llangunnock, even if it isn't already brewed. The Vicar, the Rev. W. L. Rees, has declined to pay his rates, in a very threatening manner. Indeed he has frightened the Clerk of the parish, who is also the collector, off the doorstep, told him to "hook it," and invited him to come inside and have a good thrashing. Happily the Clerk realises that discretion is the better part of valour, and that the law is mightier than the prophets. So he now takes a policeman with him to serve the demand note, admitting he is afraid of approaching the holy man otherwise. "I am in bodily fear of my life," complains he, "and I cherish my life as much as the Vicar does." We strongly advise the Vicar to moderate his muscular Christianity and accept his fate in meekness and humility, for he that oweth a rate, that sooner or later shall he surely pay.

Matthew Arnold on Party.

The active politician can hardly get on without deferring to clap-trap, and even employing it. Nay, as Socrates amusingly said, the man who defers to clap-trap and the man who uses his intelligence are, when they meet in the struggle of active politics, like a doctor and a confectioner competing for the suffrages of a constituency of schoolboys. The confectioner deals in all that the constituents like; the doctor is a man who hurts them and makes them leave off what they like and take what is disagreeable. And accordingly, in dealing with the public and with the trade of active politics, the temptation to be a confectioner is extremely strong and we see that nearly all our leading newspapers and leading politicians do in fact yield to it.—(From "Essays".)

Our First "Bullets" Prize Increased from £300 to £350.

The Rollicking Ritter!

Mr. Burton was unfortunate in the choice of his counsel in the recent case. Any other advocates than Messrs. McCall and Willoughby Williams—two of the weakest men at the bar—would not have permitted a purely financial dispute to be complicated and prejudiced by the introduction of the mass of totally irrelevant material with which the rollicking Ritter adorned his case. Their ineptitude and helplessness were in marked contrast to the dignity and old-world gallantry, in most trying circumstances, of their client.

Help and Prayer.

In connection with the Women's Suffrage campaign, it is announced that the First of February—St. Bride's Day—is to be set aside for special meditation and intercession at St. Paul's. We have not the smallest objection to the Suffragettes praying for help—so long as they give up smashing windows. But why *Bride's* day? We thought the ladies of the movement were above such things!

"They Say——"

Much talk is going on just now in political circles respecting a certain divorce case, in which a very prominent Front Bench statesman is said to be cited as the co-respondent.

The Week's "Chestnut."

NAVVY (*producing Medical Ticket at Doctor's*): "They tell me that, if I bring this to you, you'll *treat* me—*mine's* rum cold."

THE "HOODED M.P." DECIDES TO RESIGN HIS SEAT.

Just as we go to press we learn that the "Hooded M.P.," whose depraved habits we have exposed, and on whose behalf a strong appeal was made to us "in the interests of the House of Commons" to let the matter rest, has decided to accept the terms which we laid down in our last issue as the condition—and the only condition—for withholding his name from publication, namely, that he will take an early opportunity of resigning his seat in Parliament, and in any case, not later than the next General Election. In these circumstances—although not without reluctance—we refrain from publishing the name of the member in question. In justice to ourselves, however, we wish it to be clearly understood that we are prepared to disclose it to either the Speaker of the House of Commons; the Prime Minister, as Leader of the House; Mr. Bonar Law, as Leader of the Opposition; or to Mr. Illingworth or Lord Balcarres, the Chief Whips of the Government and Opposition. If Members of Parliament have any serious regard for the reputation of their Assembly, and think, with us, that our grave allegations should be the subject of enquiry by a Special Committee of the House, their course is simple. All they have to do is to exercise the requisite pressure upon their Leaders or Whips. We will do the rest.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For including amongst his "orders" for the week: "Saturday.—FALL IN THORNTON HEATH POND, 2.30 *p.m. prompt,*"
MR. RALPH SPOFFORTH (Scoutmaster),
19th Croydon Troop of Boy Scouts),
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in "The East Kent Times": "Given free; a pair of our noted HARD WEAR UNWEARABLE *Trousers,*"
MR. A. WINTER (19, King Street, Ramsgate)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its account of the Blackburn Football Match that: "Simpson shot from an acute angle, and Thorpe fell UPON *the ball, but* IT HAD SUFFICIENT IMPETUS TO ROLL OVER HIM *into the net,*"
THE FOOTBALL EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in reference to the Ironmongers' Company, that: "They had not only large warehouses and yards from which they exported and sold IRON IN THE FORM OF BRASS *and rods, but they also possessed shops,*"
THE HARDWAREMAN AND IRONMONGERS' CHRONICLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in its account of a shooting tragedy, that a witness "was lying on the couch READING THE NEWSPAPER WITH BOTH HANDS,"
THE YORKSHIRE TELEGRAPH AND STAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a County Ball that: "The Assembly Room of the Swan Hotel was reached by means of a SUBWAY *which had been* ERECTED OVER *the roadway,*"
THE MIDHURST TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For awarding a prize of 2s. 6d. for the best recipe to the person who sent in one containing a direction to " GET IN A BOTTLE,"
THE AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing that at a service at the Wesleyan Church, Castle Fields: "The Rev. W. F. Lofthouse, M.A., will preach at 11 *and* 6.30. ALE *cordially invited,*"
THE SHREWSBURY COMMERCIAL AND LITERARY CIRCULAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its recipe for a sparrow-pie: "Lay steak around the pie-dish. Make second layer with the BREASTS *and slices of* HARD-BOILED EGG *alternately,*"
IDEAS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For inserting the following advertisement in the "Cork Evening Echo": "Lost, on the 1st *inst., red stripper cow;* ONE CUT IN RIGHT RUMP BETWEEN KILBARRY AND BISHOPS TOWN,"
MR. P. O'BRIEN (Bishopstown)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

*We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same "Biscuit" be forwarded by more than one competitor, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be marked "*BISCUIT*" and addressed to "the Biscuit Editor."*

£5 a Week for Life CAN be Won and YOU May Win It.

A BLACK PREACHER'S BROWN BABY.

A WARNING TO WHITE GIRLS.

In December, 1911, we vigorously attacked what was then known as the British and African Incorporated Institution, situate at Colwyn Bay. This establishment was of twenty-five years' standing. Its aims and objects were to train in this country "the most promising of the African Christian converts for missionary work." The principal of the Institute was the Rev. W. Hughes. He had been for some time a missionary on the Congo. The College had the hearty support of the late Mr. Gladstone and Lord Coleridge.

For months prior to our exposure we had received many letters of complaint from residents in Colwyn Bay as to the conduct of several of the native students. White women were frequently interfered with, but naturally they shrank from prosecution. Now in connection with the Institute there was a weekly journal run by the man Hughes, and the following announcement which appeared in it was responsible for our first devoting attention to the concern :—

Warning.

We are informed that some persons in Colwyn Bay have been busy circulating a scandal respecting one of the coloured young men who are at the African Institute. We have investigated this matter thoroughly, and find there is no truth whatever in their report as far as this young man is concerned. Therefore we warn such persons lest they should find themselves in the hands of the law.

The scandal, we should mention, consisted of certain whisperings about a white girl having become the mother of a brown baby, the father of which was a black scoundrel named Franklin, who was one of the residential students at the Institute.

Of course the threat of "the law" had a marked effect upon the peaceful citizens of the little Welsh town, but it stimulated us to special effort. We despatched our Special Commissioner to investigate the whole of the working of the institution, with orders to have a special eye upon the brown baby. The outcome of his visit was two trenchant articles which appeared in our issues of December 16th and 23rd, 1911

Our charges, summarised, were as follows :—

Rampant immorality in the Institute.
"Cooking" of accounts by the Rev. Hughes.
Fraud on local tradesmen.
Definitely fixing the black student Franklin as father of the baby.

We need hardly say that our articles caused a sensation, the result being that two writs for libel were issued—one by the Rev. W. Hughes, and the other by Franklin.

Rev. Hughes' Action.

This was heard at Ruthin in June last, and the Rev. Humbug had the advantage of a jury of Welshmen; but when we got him under cross-examination it was soon apparent to Judge, Jury, and every one in Court, that they had before them an arch-hypocrite. Frequently the Judge had to warn him as to his method of giving evidence. Prevarication, contradiction, and fencing were his stock in trade. For over twenty years he had practised it upon the charitable public, but it did not "go down" with the Court. At the close of our cross-examination, both the Judge and the Jury intimated that they had heard quite sufficient of the case, and the verdict was given us, with costs. As the oily imposter left the Court he was followed by a hooting and jeering crowd. A few weeks later his bogus establishment at Colwyn Bay closed its doors, and so a beautful Welsh watering place was ridded of the pack of black pests which had been its curse for many a long year. Up to this point, however, we had only half won the battle. We had still to prove our charge that Hughes' black missionary was the father of the baby.

The Franklin Action.

Before the appearance of our articles, our Special Commissioner spent several days at Colwyn Bay. He left no stone unturned to find the mother of the baby, but found it impossible to obtain proof of the birth of an illegitimate child. In the circumstances, we were proposing to deal with the Institution only, but in consequence of certain further information which came to our knowledge, we despatched our Commissioner to Stockport, and in less than six hours he telephoned us: "I've found the brown baby and am now off to Colwyn Bay to interview the people who occupy the house in which the child was born."

When all the facts were established we wrote our second article—on the shame of the white girl, the victim of a black scoundrel. How we obtained the evidence has till now remained a secret, for the reason that the action for libel brought by Franklin has been pending. The nigger's heart, however, had failed him, and his suit has now been dismissed by the Court. In a sense we are sorry, because publicity would have gone a long way to stop white girls from flirting with black men. However, if this black scoundrel thinks he is going to avoid exposure by bringing an action and then dropping it at the very last moment he is sadly mistaken. Here is a summary of the case. First of all, let us repeat

The "Libel."

In February last a white girl gave birth in a house at Colwyn Bay to a half-caste child. The father bears the honoured name of Franklin—given to him by some misguided person when he became "converted," I suppose—he is a black scoundrel.

He is a native of the West Indies. Some twelve years ago he came to this country as an actor, taking the part of "Uncle Tom" in a dramatised version of Mrs. Beecher Stowe's novel. Whilst visiting Colwyn Bay he attended one of the services, and became a "Christian Convert."

After being trained at the African Institute for three years he went out to Nigeria as a missionary. Once there, he severed his connection with the Colwyn Bay authorities, he became a servant of the Church Missionary Society, and "spread the light of the glorious gospel amongst the heathen of the Niger"—to quote Mr. Hughes. While he was thus "spreading," however, he was engaged in other pursuits of a less spiritual character—for which he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. That terminated his engagement with the Church Missionary Society. After his release from prison, things became too warm for him in Nigeria, so the "fallen angel" worked his way back to this country. Naturally he went at once to the Institute at Colwyn Bay, where he soon got to work—in more senses than one.

Now for a summary of our Special Commissioner's Report, made after visits to Stockport and Colwyn Bay:—

Special Commissioner's Report.

On arrival at Stockport, I made for the address which had been given me. In response to my knock at the door a girl of about fourteen years of age opened it. She had a child in her arms. Upon my asking for her mother, she replied, "I am living with my aunt." This aunt was at a neighbour's house, so I told the child that I would write a note which she could take to her. I entered the house, took out my pocket book and pencil and scribbled a message, which I gave to the girl—first of all, however, telling her to place her baby in the cradle and that I would act the part of foster mother until she returned. She seemed pleased to get rid of her burden. Of course, while she was away I made a good inspection of the infant. The result left no doubt as to its parentage. When the girl and her aunt returned, I ascertained, by a little explanation and a few diplomatic questions, that Franklin was beyond doubt the father of the baby; that the mother was the woman's sister-in-law; that it had been fetched away from Colwyn Bay some ten weeks previously; that Franklin had visited the child and left a few shillings for its support. Then, by a little further diplomacy, I persuaded the foster-mother to accompany me to a Commissioner for Oaths, and obtained a statutory declaration.

My Luck at the Seaside.

Having now secured the address where the child was born, I proceeded there at once. I soon obtained a full written statement as to the birth. I need not go into more particulars than merely stating that the scoundrel Franklin called at the house two hours after the child was born, and at the request of the mother was shown into her bedroom, where he remained in conversation for a considerable length of time. The oily humbug Hughes had also been to see the woman. I had now the whole of the conspirators within my grasp. As is always the case, however, one statement led me to another. I soon found people who gave me further evidence, and soon my case was absolutely complete. No wonder the dusky scoundrel shirked going into Court!

Such is the story of the black preacher and the brown baby.

The Moral.

Now what is the moral of this story? Simply that rogues of the Hughes type must not be tolerated, and that our girls must be taught that black men should be shunned

SMOKE, SMOKE, SMOKE!

THE PIPE AND THE "PIECES."

A "Bullets" winner tells us that the publication of his name has caused him to be the recipient of a letter from "Majata and Co., Tobacco Factors," 7, Chaucer Street, Hull, who wish, apparently, to be regarded as philanthropists, for they state that they enclose four coupons for his "special benefit," entitling him to tobacco, etc., to the value of 3s. 4d. They continue: "All you have to do is to sell the coupons at 2½d. each, forward us the 10d., and the number on the coupons, also state which number article you require. This is a fair deal; and we hope you will be 'sport' enough to take it up." The statement that all the person who enters into this scheme has to do is to sell the coupons and forward Majatas the money, with a note of the number on the coupons and a request for the article desired, is a distinct *suppressio veri*, for the certificate says,—although in terms which would probably deceive the unwary, put off their guard by the cunning and misleading sentence we have quoted—that not until the four persons who had bought the coupons have themselves sent up 10d. each for more, will the simpleton who induced them to enter into this snowball trick derive any benefit. The position of the "philanthropists" will then be that they will have received five sums of 10d. in payment for about 3s. worth of tobacco, but if—as must almost invariably be the case—any one of the four fools who work to give the enterprising firm such profits should have his eyes opened, the sufferers will be his fellow coupon-holders, for Majatas are entitled to pocket the 10d. of the original decoy and the sums paid by the other purchasers, and give nothing in return whatever! By the way, Majatas' letter bears no printed heading, and the firm is therefore apparently in but a small way of business. What guarantee have the unthinking people who take part in this silly scheme, that the "Tobacco Factors" will be in existence when the quintette of mugs has been completed? It is also worthy of note that the circular coolly states that the coupons are available only for three months—at the end of which time, Majatas are entitled to pouch anything which has been paid in respect of any uncompleted ring.

FILM PLOTS AND PLOTTERS.

A MUDDLE AND A MESS.

We have received a number of complaints regarding the "Cinematograph Press," lately carrying on business at 128, Jermyn Street, London. They advertised extensively that much profit might be made by the writing of plots for picture plays. It was necessary, however, to purchase a copy of their book, "Picture Plays and How to Write Them"—after perusing which any fool could, it was implied, speedily make a fortune. The "popular edition (unabridged)" of this marvellous guide to Eldorado was modestly priced at 2s. 9d.; cloth-bound, 5s. The number of letters which flowed into 128, Jermyn Street, must have been quite an inundation—for the numerous correspondents who have written us upon the matter did so only after repeated communications, without avail, had been despatched, requesting delivery of the book or the return of the money. On visiting the address, we found the pretentiously styled publishing firm had been housed very modestly on the top floor in a small room, rented at 5s. a week. We managed to get a peep inside the place, which we found to be very untidy and strewn with unopened letters. We also ascertained that the person—appropriately enough, named Muddle—who had been carrying on the concern, had not been seen for some long time. It appeared that the landlord had had no direct dealings with him, having let the premises to somebody else, who, in turn, was also in arrears with the rent. Downstairs was another great pile of letters which the shopkeeper—very properly—said it was his intention to hand to the postal authorities to be returned to their senders. There must be many people looking for Muddle—and besides those who sent the two-and-ninepences, the landlord would like something on account of the 14 weeks' rent owing in respect of the room.

THE WOES OF THE WAITER.

HOW AGENCIES PLUNDER OUT-OF-WORKS.

An out-of-work waiter tells us that he and members of his calling are the victims of an intolerable wrong inflicted upon them by certain so-called employment agencies. Such male servants as himself, porters, cooks, etc., are practically unable to obtain situations otherwise than through agents. He can give no valid reason for this, and is unaware of the custom holding good in any other trade except, perhaps, that of variety artists. He tells us that these agents charge the men extortionate fees for procuring situations. They advertise in the daily papers, stating that they will supply a reliable staff free and that only men of excellent character will be sent. Employers seeing such announcements, request them to supply a man or two, naturally thinking that they will get only those whose references have been fully investigated. They go to the so-called agents, of course, merely to save themselves the trouble of advertisements and interviews. This natural step, however, inflicts upon unfortunate out-of-works a grievous hardship, as they know they must apply to the agents, and that, no matter how excellent their work or how good their references may be, they will not obtain a situation unless prepared to give a good round sum for an introduction. The usual fee for a chef at, say, £2 a week, is about £3. There is no beating about the bush at the interview with the agent,—no references are gone into, the sole matter of discussion usually being whether the unemployed man has been out before and whether he can pay the extortionate fee. If the money is handed over, there is no delay in preparing the necessary introduction, which is invariably accepted by the hotel manager as a thorough guarantee of good character and capability. Should there be a considerable run upon a tempting position, it is usually sold to the highest bidder. We are also informed that sometimes the agent is in league with one of the principals at the hotel, such as the manager, superintendent, head waiter, or chef. The practice then, is constantly to change the staff, each new-comer, of course, paying a substantial fee, which is split up between the parties to the little plot. After being a few weeks in the job, the unfortunate man is discharged to provide an opportunity for further plunder. And to think that such concerns are licensed by the L.C.C.!

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

A HARLEQUINADE IN REAL LIFE.

A peculiar case has been placed before us by an egg merchant, who had occasion to despatch from Dartford a small consignment of these delicate comestibles. On arrival at their destination they appeared to have been used for the old joke of the clown and the policeman. The South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company declined to pay compensation, however, on the ground that the consignor was distinctly informed, when handing the eggs in for transmission, that they were badly packed; that they would be carried only at his risk, and that he would have to sign an owner's risk note accordingly—which, however, he declined to do. The reply of our correspondent is that he is an expert in regard to such matters, and that the eggs in dispute were quite sufficiently well packed to withstand all the ordinary usage to which fragile articles can legitimately be subjected. Certainly the fact that after declining to sign the form of indemnity the railway clerk accepted the case and charged him 10d. above the ordinary rate seems to indicate that his version of the affair is the correct one—notwithstanding that the Company assert that, had they accepted the eggs on the terms suggested, the amount charged would have been 1s. 2d. The railway people have now refunded the 10d., but we venture to suggest to them that, in the circumstances, fairness demands that they should pay compensation for the damage. They are, however, a rich company and our reader is poor and quite unable to fight a case. We are therefore afraid it is unlikely that this interesting problem will ever be solved by the proper "solution experts," His Majesty's Judges.

£5 a Week for Life CAN be Won and YOU May Win It.

HOW TO DEAL WITH STREET-DOOR PESTS.

WHEN A SOFT ANSWER DOES NOT TURN THEM AWAY.

Many of our readers have asked us how to stop the intolerable nuisance of incessantly having to answer the door to insurance agents, sewing machine canvassers, circular distributors, hawkers of trashy jewellery, etc., etc. Many suburban residents have, it is true, gone to the expense of affixing to their outer gates some such notice as:

"No Hawkers,
"No Circulars,
"No Canvassers."

but in spite of this, still they come.

There is also another and more serious aspect of the matter. Sometimes these serpent disturbers of suburban Edens are in reality the spies of burglars.

To make the punishment fit the crime is often difficult—as is the case here—but by Section 26 of the Town Police Clauses Act it is provided (amongst other things) that "Any person who wilfully and wantonly disturbs any inhabitant by pulling or ringing any door-bell, or knocking at any door . . . shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings for each offence, or in the discretion of the justice before whom he is convicted may be committed to prison for fourteen days." We therefore suggest to the magistrates before whom some of these creatures may be brought, that if it be proved that they rang the bell or knocked at the door, notwithstanding a notice similar to the one quoted above, it constitutes the offence of wilfully and wantonly disturbing within the meaning of the Act.

Rather a humorous incident bearing upon this question is told us by a Tooting lady reader. She, having seen recent warnings in this journal, managed to avoid wasting time and money on some of the men of distinguished appearance wishing her to accord them interviews on "personal matters," such important business turning out, on enquiry, to be such things as the giving of orders for tea or photographs. The other day, however, she was neatly trapped. A smart-looking man came quite early, said he was a neighbour, and asked whether he could see her "on a personal matter," giving his name as "Mr. Davis." The lady had only just finished her ablutions, but she tells us that she scurried into decent attire, while Mr. Davis was waiting in her sitting-room. She hurried downstairs in some trepidation, fearing that possibly her little girl, or her cat, had been misbehaving. Imagine her disgust on being told the usual tale—that he was a neighbour out of a berth; but that if he could sell 64 lbs. of tea he could get a decent job. Our correspondent was most annoyed, but felt at a great disadvantage with the intruder in an armchair before the fire, talking with her as intimately as if he had known her for years. She therefore gave him an order to get rid of him, but her husband, on arriving home and being told the occurrence, regretted that he had not been present at the time, as he would have meted out very different treatment to the canvasser. This enterprising individual gave the name of his firm as Hoye and Co., Clapham. By the way, our correspondent cannot find the name of Davis, as that of anybody could be properly styled a neighbour living in her vicinity. We therefore suggest to readers who are so pestered that they should, if necessary, put into operation the section we have quoted.

"WORKING" A COMMISSION.

WHO IS ELLIS?

A reader tells us that a short time ago he saw an advertisement for a man to "work a commission," and in reply to an application for particulars, received an offer of £2 weekly and 2s. in the pound commission on turf winnings from a Mr. W. Ellis, of 17, Whitcombe Street, Haymarket. Our correspondent asks us whether Ellis is "all right." On enquiry, we find that this gentleman, notwithstanding that he makes some display of the name of his bankers, is not, in our opinion, a desirable person with whom to have business transactions, as the address he gives is merely that of a newsvendor, who receives his letters but knows nothing whatever about him.

OUR COMPETITIONS.

WHY THEY ARE SO POPULAR.

People are asking why JOHN BULL's Competitions have become the most popular of all these journalistic forms of recreative rivalry amongst readers. The explanation is simple. First of all, take "Bullets." We not only give more in prizes than any of our contemporaries, but we really do carefully judge *every* coupon which is sent in. In fact, we guarantee that *every* coupon is *read twice*. Then, our prizes are despatched so as to reach the winners on or before the day on which their names are announced, and, finally, we do not spare either trouble or expense in attending to the smallest detail connected with the Competition. No complaint is left unheeded, and no slip on the part of a competitor is left unrectified. Thus "Bullets" have become the most popular form of Home entertainment in the country, with the result that we are enabled to constantly increase the Prize Money. Then take our mammoth Football scheme. A pension for life of £5 per week, and in any event £500 for somebody! Here, again, there are again no embarrassing restrictions. We take all the risk. If more than half the matches to be played on February 8th should be abandoned, the remaining ones will decide the prize. And *every* coupon will be carefully scrutinised, under conditions which make fraud absolutely impossible.

That is why our Competitions lead the way.

The last coupon in the £5 a Week for Life contest appears this week, and in our next issue we shall commence another exceptionally attractive Football Competition—so order your copy of the paper now.

OUR NEW TELEPHONE SERVICE.

AN ILLUMINATING DOCUMENT.

One of our readers recently received the following interesting communication, typed in dirty ink, upon common paper:—

144a, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
January 14th, 1913.

Address reply to "The Controllor,"
quoting Registered No.
Telegraphic Address: "Phonos," London.
Telephone Number City 2,000.
(Private Branch Exchange.)
Exchange....C....Number.

MESSAGE RATE CALLS.

SIR,

I beg to inform you that your deposit for local calls was exceeded by the sum shown below during your last rental year, and I shall be glad if you will be so good as to forward this amount by return of post.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
G. F. PRESTON (Controller).

THE REMITTANCE SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY THIS LETTER.

Amount due £ : :

Cheques, etc., should be made payable to the Postmaster-General or bearer and be crossed "& Co. a/c H.M. Postmaster-General."

They should be forwarded to the Controllor, London Telephone Service, 144a, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

Oh, for a Business Post Office! But the Postmaster-General is too busy with the Home Rule Bill.

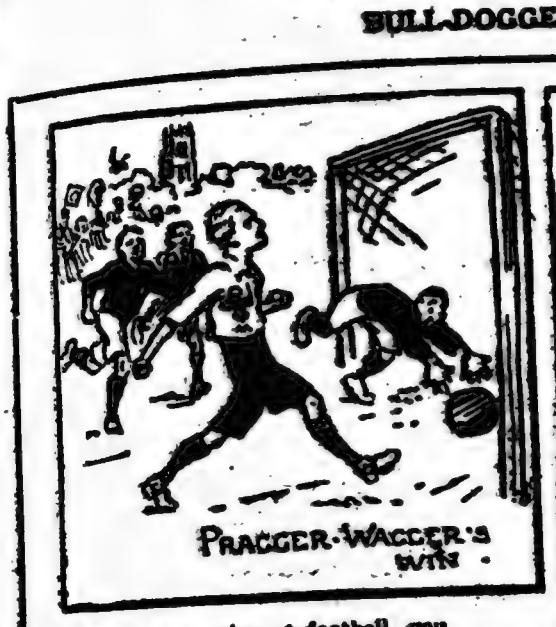
RATS!

Some days ago a soldier who jumped in the river and saved a woman's life was reprimanded for damaging his uniform, and was made to replace it. Naturally the man grumbled—or, to use Tommy's expression, "did a grouse." One of our military readers, stationed at the Curragh, says there are many other soldiers in the "same boat." He quotes several cases of men in his corps who have had their uniforms destroyed by rats. He argues—and very rightly also—that if the War Office authorities will not rid the camp of rats, they should pay for the soldiers' clothing which is destroyed by the vermin.

2,000 additional Prizes for Bullet Competitors. See page 182.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



When princes play at football, you
Will generally find
The side for which they play wins, though
Of course its not designed.

Fair Peace, when amity seemed sure,
Receives a nasty jar,
Beholding the Young Turks once more
Let slip the dogs of war.

The gentlemanly Lulu takes
Advantage of the chance.
Tilts at his friends, and on them breaks
His keen and polished lance.

We learned that Taffy was a thief
Of old, and deemed it true;
And now we hear, to our great grief,
He is a liar, too!

The Opposition leader put
His questions three in vain;
The Premier keeps his mouth close shut
And treats them with disdain.

While big K.C's. get whopping fees
In cases big, to fight 'em,
Their juniors get lesser fees,
And so, *d infinitum*.

FANATICISM AND SUNDAY FOOTBALLERS.

NOT ALL LAVENDER AT MITCHAM.

We have always expressed the opinion that it is conducive to the physical and moral welfare of the people that they should participate on Sundays in outdoor sports, or attend concerts, in lieu of lounging about the streets, with frequent intervals for rest and refreshment in public-houses. The righteous-overmuch, however, have never seen the matter from our standpoint—possibly because of the competition with their own establishments. The latest instance of intolerance to come to our notice is that of a Sunday football club. It used to play on Mitcham Common, but though, as far as we are aware, the members have never misbehaved themselves or been more boisterous than is usual amongst respectable players, a local vicar has objected, and Colonel Seely—doubtless in the belief that he is voicing the wishes of the nation at large, but, we venture to think, speaking quite contrary to their real opinion—has refused to allow the club to continue to play there. We wonder whether the gallant Colonel has every read Mr. Charles Booth's famous book, "The Religious Influences of London," and is thus aware of the smallness of the proportion of the population which attends any place of religious worship on Sundays. Perhaps, however, as a member of our goody-goody Government, he feels it incumbent on him to do his little best to remedy this terrible condition of affairs.

MOCKERIES AND SNARES.

MORE ABOUT THE BOGUS AUCTIONEERS.

A Liverpool correspondent, seeing our recent exposures of the mock auctioneers in the Strand—by the bye, the principal one cleared off immediately upon the appearance of our paragraph—tells us that Liverpool is infested with these rascals. He appears to be a student of human nature and to have made it a practice to visit such places. He speaks of an old country couple going into an establishment in Lime Street and buying a brooch. To lead them on, their money was returned. In anticipation of a similar course being adopted regarding their next purchase, they paid £3 for a tea and coffee service—really worth about 4s. 6d.—which the scamp in the box said would be "given away for nothing." The cunning trick was made evident when the poor people found they had to buy a 9-carat ring, worth three or four shillings, for £3. Another unfortunate man who has cause to remember these particular rooms is a poor old chap who paid 6s. each for a gentleman's and lady's watch, and a similar amount for a pair of small opera glasses—the articles being obtainable in any 6½d. bazaar. He was drunk at the time and tendered a sovereign, the auctioneer sticking to the money and giving him a trumpery brooch for the balance of 2s. Surely the authorities should no longer issue auctioneers' licences to the rascals who are perpetrating these gigantic frauds. A little enquiry would soon convince the police of the nature of the business, if not already aware of it.

Your LAST CHANCE to Win Our £5 a Week for Life.

"BLAKE'S BUNKUM."

BULLETITES BEWARE!

We have received a considerable number of further complaints regarding the notorious competition sharks, "Reginald Blake and Co.," of 51, Gurney Street, Walworth. We publish the following as typical of the experiences of many who have swallowed Blake's glittering bait—to discover, too late, the hook contained in it:—

> In response to a circular sent by them containing various statements for which evidently there is little foundation, I sent them the sum of 10s. they guaranteeing to supply various solution efforts until the sum of £10 was won. The receipt for the amount brought me another circular inviting me to subscribe anything between £1 and £4 10s. for their special efforts. I replied that I had paid them for their special efforts as per their original circular, and if I was not to receive them I must ask for the immediate return of my subscription. No reply. The first week's eight efforts contained two errors in spelling, one error in grammar and a gross blunder as to the meaning of a word. The second week no efforts were received. The third week they were received too late for use, and I again wrote for the return of my subscription, threatening exposure and communication with Scotland Yard. The fourth week efforts were sent, again not in accordance with contract; the fifth week no efforts have come. Two attempts to get a copy of their vaunted list of prizewinners have failed. Now I have threatened communication with Scotland Yard again if money not returned.

By the way, we have also received a copy of Blake's "Regina System," a four-leafed booklet, published at 5s., and purporting to assure fortunes beyond the dreams of avarice to those who apparently despise such respectable poverty as £200 a week. Anybody thinking of "following" Blake is strongly urged to buy a copy of this extraordinary production—he will then waste no more money on the concern or in risking sixpences on the effusions of any "expert" who could be responsible for such a fraud.

A CLOSE SHAVE.

A TOO-OLD-AT-FORTY TRAGEDY.

By F. BIRD.

The room was silent save for the ticking of a clock. The very attitude of the man in the deep armchair by the fire betokened despair. The firelight danced and flickered weirdly, throwing a thousand fantastic shadows about the room, and accentuating the lines of agony in his face. He sat lost in meditation, looking the very embodiment of the spirit of hopelessness. Only the spasmodically clenching hand betrayed his emotions.

Too old! Too old! Yes, that was what they meant; he could see through their carefully disguised hints. He looked too old. Good God! And he was only forty-five. Just at the height of his powers—just in his prime. He had spent his life in the service of the firm, and this was the reward. The reward of all his years of loyal, ungrudging service! He had spent the best years of his manhood, he had consecrated all his energies to the task of building up the business, and then, when he had given them of his best, after years of striving at the utmost pitch of human endeavour, they hinted that he looked too old. The injustice of it, the black-hearted ingratitude!

Well, they should have their answer. They should see there was a cure even for old age. His features were tortured into a ghastly smile at the irony of the thought.

He rose abruptly from his chair, opened a drawer, and took out something that glittered and flashed in the dancing firelight. He surveyed its edge critically. He had often praised the keenness of this razor, when he had little dreamed it would be put to such a use.

Was it inevitable? Was there no other way? Then his wavering ceased. The mouth, under the heavy moustache, set in a firm, straight line, determination showed in every feature.

With the razor in his hand he strode noiselessly into the adjoining room.

* * * * * *

Ten minutes later he emerged—*clean-shaven.*

ANOTHER STEPNEY SCANDAL.

MAINTENANCE DEMANDED FOR DEAD MAN.

In November last a a highly reepectable man, a resident for over forty years in the parish of Stepney, was admitted into the local Union suffering from a deranged mind. Within a week of his admission he was transferred to Claybury Asylum. The Relieving Officer immediately took steps to find the children, with a view to making them maintain their father. He succeeded in tracing some of them, and with one a correspondence ensued as to his contribution, resulting in the Guardians writing him, on December 3rd last, that they required him to pay a nominal sum "regularly every week." To this the son replied the next day, giving reasons why the Guardians should release him altogether from the burden. He received no reply, but on December 30th was surprised and distressed by being informed by a friend, whom he met accidentally, that his unfortunate parent had died. He immediately wrote to the Union officials to ascertain if his information was correct, and was much astonished to learn that his father had died on December 1st, and was buried a day or two afterwards. He naturally communicated with the Clerk of the Union, requesting an explanation of that official's demand on December 3rd for payment of future maintenance money, and strongly complaining that, although in communication with the authorities, they had not seen fit to inform him of his father's death, thus preventing him from paying his last tribute of respect. The Clerk of the Union replied that at the time of the patient's removal the officer in charge had the address of one son only on the order of admission, those of other members of the family not being required by the authorities, and that it was assumed that the person to whom notice of illness or death was sent would apprise everyone else entitled to know of such an event. In this case the family is split up, and one member does not know where another lives. The son then pointed out that the officials had readily found him when they wanted money—had indeed demanded a payment from him some days after his father's death—and asked for the following information:

1. The date when the Union officials received from the Asylum authorities news of the patient's death.
2. Why the Union officials did not reply to the letter of December 4th.
3. Why application was made, several days after the patient's death, for a contribution towards his future maintenance.

To this perfectly legitimate request no reply was vouchsafed, so another letter was sent expressing surprise at the off-hand manner in which such a serious matter was being treated. Although a fortnight has elapsed, this also has gone unanswered.

We wonder whether there are other people—unpossessed of friends "in the know"—who are contributing to the support of dead relatives in the way which, but for the accident we have described, the son of the deceased Stepney man might still be doing.

Now, Mr. Burns!

WITHOUT THE OPTION.

(At the Nottingham Police Court, a man who describes himself as a singer was charged with begging. He appealed to the magistrate to allow him to sing in Court to prove that he had a good voice.)

"I'll sing thee songs of Araby,"
(Wherever that may be),
I'll trill sweet lays in "Thora's" praise;
Or chant "The Rosary."

I'd like to tell "The Admiral's Yarn,"
Or strike up with "The Clock,"
But of the trips of some "Three Ships"
I'd best sing from the *dock.*

What's that? I'm not to sing at all?
My voice you scorn to try?
Then, through this job, to forty bob
I'll have to sing "Good-bye."

GREATREX NEWMAN.

Increased Again! "Bullets" Prizes value £1,655 this Week.

L.C.C. METHODS.

AS FOR A SIXPENNY REPORT.

Why should the London County Council take such pains to prevent the general body of ratepayers from ascertaining how their representatives speak and vote at Spring Gardens? The division lists (except on very rare occasions) are not published in the Press, and the official Minutes, for which 6d. is charged, are very condensed and form a most incomplete synopsis of the proceedings. Consequently, the constituents have to trust to their members' own accounts of their conduct; and many votes given in the Council, which would be condemned by the majority, are not mentioned either in their speeches or election addresses. A glaring illustration of this is afforded in the case of South Hackney, when, after representing the constituency for several years, it was discovered that Messrs. Chapman and Casson, the sitting members, who at all convivial functions had been posing as "hail fellow, well met, good sports," had all along been acting on the Council as purity-mongers and Stigginses—the information being secretly conveyed to the local goody-goodies, but carefully concealed from the broad-minded majority of the electorate. Since then, the John Bull League has had its eye on them, and as far as the limited means of obtaining information permit, has their record—necessarily an incomplete one.

Recently, however, on the occasion of the sitting to adjudicate on the Report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, it seemed likely that opportunity would be afforded to analyse fully the speeches and votes of the members; for in the official Minutes, the following paragraph appeared:—"In order that a proper record might be preserved of the proceedings before us, we engaged the services of a shorthand writer. A full transcript of the notes taken in the case of the opposed applications will be printed and a copy will be sent to each member."

The shorthand writer referred to was employed at the ratepayers' expense to take a note of the proceedings, which note has been duly printed and supplied to all the L.C.C. members. Yet when we instructed our representative (himself a ratepayer who has already contributed his share of the expense) to obtain a copy; the librarian informed him that it was for the use of members only, and not for the Press or the public. It was pointed out to him that, in view of the coming L.C.C. contest, the electors were entitled to know the attitude adopted by their members. After a consultation with some Committee, the librarian stated that he was "instructed to say that the printed copy of the note was for the use of members only." If, however, our representative would pay for it, he could have it—but the cost would be at least four to five pounds!!! He also stated, in reply to a question, that this decision was official and authoritative.

Any member of the public can obtain the daily Parliamentary report for a few pence. Why should he be charged as many pounds for a similar Report of an L.C.C. debate?

LABOUR JOURNALISM.

THE "DAILY HERALD'S" OPTIMISM.

We have received the following candid and kindly letter from Mr. C. P. Griffiths, the General Manager of the *Daily Herald*:—

> In your current issue you put the query:—Is it true that the two Labour dailies are losing between them nearly £3,000 a week? So far as the *Daily Herald* is concerned it can answer the query relative to itself that it has made no secret of the fact that its losses are in the neighbourhood of £500 per week.
>
> We may add that we realise that we have a tremendous following, and we also realise that Labour papers are yet young and cannot expect to command a huge advertising revenue; but no doubt when the *Daily Herald* has lived as long as the Democratic and excellent JOHN BULL, it may be as successful in its advertisement revenue.

After that, we can only wish our plucky little contemporary luck.

KOSHER MEAT.

HOW JEWS KILL THEIR BEASTS.

Apropos of the paragraph in our issue of January 18th headed "Rabbinical Cruelty," a Liverpool reader gives the statement of Mr. H. M. Palmer, of Bridgetown, co. Cork, a direct repudiation. "Your correspondent," he says, "has either been misinformed, or, acting upon the vividness of his imagination, has endeavoured to express his 'ideas' in language more forcible than—even—respectable. He has, however, shown his ignorance by calling a Rabbi a 'scoundrel' (and I was extremely glad to note that you also disagreed with this allusion to one who stands in the same position as a vicar in the Christian religion). With regard to the Jewish method of killing animals, may I, in the first instance, point out that according to Jewish law it is unlawful to kill an animal whereby cruelty in any degree whatever would be the result?

"In fact, from what I have seen myself of the Jewish mode of slaughtering, it is *the most humane*. Animals are *not* gathered together in a row and tied down. That is a white lie, and should be met with the contempt it deserves; and the same may apply to his reference to a Rabbi as a 'scoundrel.' The animals are taken singly out of the 'pen' and their throats cut *from ear to ear with an extremely sharp knife*; thus instantaneous death results. This deserves mention—*this knife is washed and wiped after each animal is killed*. Comment is unnecessary as to the way the Christians kill their beasts. I only thought it my duty, Mr. Editor, to repudiate the statement of this Mr. Palmer. I have not written this letter to illustrate the methods of the Jews or the Christians in killing beasts—my express purpose was for the above stated reason."

We have much pleasure in publishing this emphatic denial. As our readers will remember, we were careful not to endorse the statements of our original correspondent

"A SAILOR'S LIFE IS BOLD AND FREE."

A GROUSE FROM JACK TAR.

Whenever one of his Majesty's ships of war visits American waters there is invariably a large number of desertions. Nor can this be wondered at if the commanders are all as tactless as the captain of H.M.S. *Natal*. A protest, signed on behalf of "about two hundred of the men" of the ship's company, has reached us with the request that we will do anything we can to right a wrong. Briefly, the men state that, although the new Regulations made by Mr. Winston Churchill are quite favourable to them, once the ship is out of home waters the captain makes orders of his own. For instance, by this autocrat's direction, a special leave list is kept and every petty officer and man who is absent on leave for over three hours is placed on this. A great number of the crew were so booked down on December 19th. In six weeks' time the vessel is expected back in English waters, but none of these men will be allowed ashore, as they have been thus penalised for six months. It is stated to us that the majority of these "defaulters" are first-class men, in possession of one, two and three good conduct badges. Our correspondents complain that they were at Portsmouth for four days before sailing to New York, and were not allowed ashore; they were at sea for Christmas and the New Year, and arrived at Sandy Hook, after a very rough passage, only to find that there was no leave for the men on the special list—they were, therefore, debarred from visiting concerts and entertainments on American ships. Several of the men say that they are going to take a very long "French" leave. It is little wonder!

A TIMELY PUBLICATION.

Following in the footsteps of Charles Dickens and others whom we are too modest to mention, Mr. W. W. Crotch is about to publish—appropriately, through Messrs. Chapman and Hall—a book vigorously attacking the archaic parliamentary abuses still, unfortunately, thriving. The author's arguments will be fortified with quotations from the great novelist-reformer, and should do something to hurry on the era of a Business Government.

How to be Independent for Life. See page 171.

THE CAPE SHIPPING COMBINE.

HOUSTON'S "RING OFF."

We have several times criticised the Cape Loading Ring, or Trust, and commended the sensible and drastic effort by the Cape Legislature to break up the "corner" by refusing to sanction the mail contract being placed in the hands of any company paying to shippers rebates which were devised—as in the case of the notorious Rockefeller Trust—to continue the monopoly of the trade and keep up freights. It was, indeed, high time that some official action was taken to break up this band of brigands—the extent of whose depredations upon legitimate traders may be judged from the fact that it was well worth their while to pay £12,000 a year to Messrs. Houlder Bros. and Co. and Messrs. Alexander Howden and Co. (as representatives of the South African and international lines), to prevent these firms from coming to the assistance of victims by loading against the Ring and thus enabling the Cape merchants to obtain the benefit of competition. We ventured to predict that Messrs. R. P. Houston and Co. would break away from the little gang of conspirators, and would refuse to be parties to such questionable payments; and we have now before us a circular issued by Sir Owen Philipps, as chairman of the Union Mail Steamship Co., enclosing what purports to be an agreement, but on which the "signatures" of the members of the Ring are printed—such names *not* including Messrs. Houston! The Cape shippers are asked to sign this document, which, while abolishing the 10 per cent. rebate, coolly raises the rates of freight by no less than 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton. The subtle point of this agreement is that it promises nothing definitely on behalf of the shipowners, whilst it endeavours to bind the shippers, until the end of the present year, not to give business to any line of steamers outside the Trust which may be induced to put their vessels into the Cape trade. The whole thing is an absolute farce from beginning to end, as no penalty is provided, and no means of enforcing a penalty, against any shipper who supports an "outside" steamer after signing it. We are not surprised that the Cape Government has emphatically protested against this little scheme.

Sir Owen Philipps, in his manifesto, makes much of the Merchants' Committee, but it should be remembered that this body consists merely of the large merchants, whose natural object it is to keep the Cape trade in their own hands and to prevent any outsider from coming into what they consider their monopoly. However, we are glad to be in a position to state that a circular is about to be issued by the German steamship lines announcing their intention of sending their best vessels to England to load cargo at lower rates and in opposition to the Ring.

THE VERY OLD GUARD.

IS THERE LIFE IN THE WAR DOGS YET?

Our exposure of that bogus military force, the so-called National Reserves, has brought forth scores of letters of protests from people who evidently think that we are unpatriotic. They are, however, wrong. We are the real patriots, because we wish to expose a dangerous sham and substitute something that will be of use in time of war.

A Commandant of the National Reserves objects to what we said concerning the three-score-years-and-ten member of the Force, with nanny-goat whiskers down to his knees, who was compelled to hobble along with a stick. The gallant officer tells us that there are many such men in the National Reserve, and that the *only* object in having them enrolled is to "give them a military funeral when they die"! We have always, however, understood that they were intended for home defence in case of need. As Paddy Flannagan, of the Buffs, said to the priest who was trying to comfort him on his death-bed: "Be Hivens, phat the divil's the good of a foin funeral wen y're dead? Gib it me now, be gobs; let me sit up in me coffin with a big cigar in me mouth, and a bottle of the crater in me hand, while the regiment marches wid me old bones to the simitary. Then I'll lie aizy, Father." We suggest that the ancient militarists should be pensioned off at once with the price of the funeral.

JUSTICE IN JERSEY.

THE PRANKS OF THOSE IN "BRIEF AUTHORITY."

Judge Vaudin, of the Cour Correctionelle, Jersey, has again been indulging in his flatulent eccentricities from the bench of justice. What Charles II. said of Judge Jeffreys, Jerseymen are now beginning to think of Judge Vaudin. With all his efforts, he does not appear to be successful even as a buffoon; but his insolence is more telling because it has the weight of magisterial authority, and witnesses retort upon his feeble but aggravating witticisms at the expense of their skins. It may be that the Lord sometimes opens the mouth of the ass, but when this happens, one naturally expects to hear something worth the saying. Judge Vaudin is one of those creations who seem wiser when they say nothing. It is certainly high time that his assumption of the right to misuse his position to make offensive remarks about witnesses were challenged. The case of Rose Cadiou, before him the other day, is one in point. As the Judge was aware, Rose Cadiou is a well-known character in St. Helier; she appears in Court once every few weeks to answer the charge of "drunk and disorderly." When she appeared on the last occasion, a Mr. George Monamy, a respected St. Helier tradesman, testified that he had given the woman employment, and that she had subsequently turned up at his place in a drunken condition. To what man, save Judge Vaudin, sitting as a magistrate, would it occur that this plain statement of evidence was opportunity and justification for innuendo? And yet the next instant he was saying, protected by his privilege, "It is strange she should be so attracted to you, Monamy, for you are not a beauty." The wonder is that the witness had the courage to reply that he was as the Lord made him, for most people answer this imitator of Jeffreys' tone only by trembling, remembering the fate of the local churchwarden—of whom the Judge demanded, "Were *you* drunk?" "Not any more than you are at present, sir," was the justifiable retort, whereupon he was put in prison for "contempt of Court." Another case that will not easily be forgotten is that of a Frenchman, one Gicquel, who was being convicted for some paltry offence. "*Ah, Monsieur le Juge, c'est un peu fort!*" he interrupted. "One month in gaol," said Judge Vaudin.

It is the opinion of Jerseymen that this foolery and this taunting of witnesses and defendants should come to an end. They hold, and it is reasonable, that such Shallows should sharpen their wits—if any—upon personal friends when the day's duty is done, and not on those who appear in the Courts where dullards administer justice.

"REFRESHING FRUIT."

CLERKS COMPLAIN OF ITS RARITY.

We have received the following communication:—

We are employed contributors of every shade of politics, and beg to place on record the fact that for the following reasons we thank the Chancellor for nothing in connection with the National Insurance Act:

1. We are in a firm which has for years past made arrangements with a "tame" doctor on behalf of its employees.
2. We have hitherto received full salary during any illness even of long duration. We are now to receive what the Act provides.
3. We are unmarried, and protest against indecent advertisements of maternity benefits.
4. If it is pointed out to us that our compulsory payments assist others, we would suggest that, considering our financial position, all charity on our part should be voluntary only.
4. We have greater need for provision against the possible contingency of long periods of unemployment in middle age.
5. We object to being saddled throughout life with a useless burden, entailing much bother.
6. In the event of unemployment we are liable for both our own subscriptions and those of employers who do not exist.

Upon all the above points, chiefly affecting clerks and domestic servants, we call for early and drastic amendment of the Act, and claim that in our cases insurance should be voluntary only.

The most irrepressible optimist cannot convince us that we have been benefited.

We rather doubt the genuineness of the third objection.

Our First "Bullets" Prize Increased from £300 to £350.

"If Gamage were my partner"

HOW THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HAS BROUGHT HIM TO SUCCESS CAN HELP OUR READERS THERE.

A. W. Gamage.

NOT so many years ago the man whose picture appears on this page was the proud proprietor of a half-share in a tiny little shop in Holborn with a frontage of not more than a few feet. Now that business occupies two huge blocks of buildings, and is being added to every day. And its owner has hundreds of other interests as well.

Moreover, this wonderful success is due to his own efforts. He has had no outside "influence" to help him on the road to success. His progress has been due to one thing and one thing only, to his business knowledge, the knowledge that tells one when to buy and how to sell, when to lay down new plant and when to retrench, that shows the way out of difficulties and the best means of seizing opportunities.

What would it mean to you?

What would it not mean to you if you could have such a man with you every day in your work to help you in *your* difficulties, to show you the way to seize *your* opportunities? You must realise that it might mean just the difference between just the mediocre measure of success that attends most hard-working men and the *real* success that comes to the few. Only a few days ago Andrew Carnegie, the great millionaire, told a reporter that "merely doing your duty is not sufficient. You must work with your head, and in addition to obeying orders *work out projects of your own.*"

Now, how are you to lay those projects, if you have no past experience to help you or no substitute for it, such as you would have if only you could have a man like Gamage for your partner?

How can you have it?

Do you know that you *can* have Gamage for your partner, at least as far as the benefit of his advice is concerned? And not only Gamage, but also Sir Joseph Lyons, the famous restauranteur; and Richard Burbidge, managing director of Harrods' Stores; and S. F. Edge, the famous expert on making and selling motor cars, who started as a cycle racer; and James Murray Allison, advertisement manager of *The Times*; and John Lawrie, managing director of William Whiteley, Ltd. Nor are these all, for you can have the advice of many other famous men, such, for example, as Mr. H. Simonis, Director of the *Daily News and Leader* and one of the most able members of the advertising profession in Great Britain.

And the way you can get the benefit of these men's knowledge is by getting the "Business Encyclopædia" and by referring to it whenever a business difficulty faces you. Whatever your difficulty, however hard it seems, you will be able to solve it by the advice given in the "Business Encyclopædia." For it is written by men who have solved similar difficulties themselves, including all those mentioned above, and many more besides, whose names will be sent free upon request.

Is it any wonder, then, that over 60,000 successful business men and great business firms are already using the work? Can there be any doubt that you will be better able to succeed if you also have it by your side to give you advice in your difficulties and to lend you confidence in your decisions?

A Book on Business Free.

In this column you will find a special coupon for readers of JOHN BULL, which entitles you to a free copy of an interesting book on business, that may set you on the right road to business success, just as it has set many others of your fellow readers. In itself it is of considerable value to any business man, for it contains actual facsimile specimens, showing how to draw up important legal documents, such as wills, agreements, leases, indentures, etc., etc.

But—and this is its most vital point for you—it tells you also *all* about this great "Business Encyclopædia," the work that JOHN BULL describes as "probably the most valuable work that any business man could have." It is the only work that gives full and detailed information on all the problems that confront the business man during his work.

Whatever line of business you are in, whatever position you occupy in it, this work can prove invaluable to you if you will use it right. If you want to know about any point in book-keeping, the "Business Encyclopædia" will tell you. If you want to know about drawing up a balance-sheet, or a profit and loss account, you will find it here. If you want to know the law as it affects your own particular calling, if you want to know anything about manufacturing, if you want to learn all about loose leaf and card index systems, you can learn it here. You can learn, in fact, of any and every subject connected with business. Surely you realise the help this knowledge would mean.

It is only because 60,000 firms and business men are already using the work that we are able to offer to deliver it to any reader of JOHN BULL for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, the balance being paid in small monthly payments, while you are already using and benefiting by the work. But signing this coupon does not cost you anything.

A FREE BOOK.

This Coupon entitles you to one free copy of the book on Business Success, but it must be sent at once. It tells all about the work and the specially low terms to readers of JOHN BULL.

To the CAXTON PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me one complimentary copy of the book on the "Business Encyclopædia."

Name .....
(Send this form or a postcard).

Address .....

.....

A CHURCH "HOG."

TIRESOME TINTINNABULATION OF A ST. PANCRAS PRIEST.

By a Sufferer.

You all know what Road Hogs are. Well, "Church Hogs" are a Gadarene swine that make themselves nuisances to their neighbours—particularly by ringing church bells when performing some bit of ritual that is forbidden by the Public Worship Regulation Act.

A clergyman in South St. Pancras has been banging his bell to the annoyance of night workers. One of them sent him a wire at about 2 a.m. on November 30th:—

Striking two!
Expedient you
Devoutly honour
Sandrew!

"Sandrew" is telegraphese for "Saint Andrew." The parson might think that a message of that sort came from some Scotch roysterer. But another wire left at 3 a.m.:—

Sandrew's Day. Watching, pray.
Other wires without delay.

Alas, though the parson had been unmolested all Saturday night, he retaliated with his devil-worship and bells on the Sunday. So on Monday morning at 2 a.m. a commissionaire on a bicycle took a telegram:—

Mild remembrancer: To-day
Is that of Saint Aurelia.

There was no need next morning to wire:—

Piously devotions pay
To Saint Francis Xavier,

nor to let off fireworks in front of the sinner's door at 4 a.m. on December 4th in honour of Santa Barbara, the patroness of the Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, gunsmiths and firework makers. But matters got bad again on St. Nicholas' Day, December 6th. The bells that were rung must have made Old Nick feel sick. The inhabitants of Judd Street got their backs up. And, on December 7th, at 2 a.m., another bicycling commissionaire carried:—

In ambrosial sleep don't stay,
For it's Saint Ambrose's Day.

Things went better for a while, but a wire had to be sent on December 16th:—

Let adoration now be paid
Glorying Saint Adelaide,

and another on the morning of December 19th:—

Rise! Canonicals put on,
And honour Saint Timoleon.

It had been hoped that there would be a truce during the season of Peace and Goodwill. But the morning of Sunday, December 22nd, was made infernal by that parson. Next morning he got:—

Conquer sloth! Don bright array!
Honour Saint Victoria!

Those lines took the parson to his solicitors. They wrote threatening to apply to the magistrates for process. There was no "process," but much bell-ringing. So the parson's conduct was reported to the Bishop of London, who "did his best." But the nuisance is still continuing. The Mayor and Corporation of St. Pancras are not worth two penn'orth of stale gin, the whole lot of them, or they would have put a stopper on this ecclesiastic. There is a "ding, ding, ding—ding, ding, ding,—ding, ding, ding" about 20 minutes after the start of each service. A poet has written (to the tune of Haydn's Hymn to the Emperor):—

One thing you are asked to settle,
Mister Mayor, our borough's boss,
Squelch that Cromer Street tin kettle
Which destroys the p leecemen's doss!
Ere it's six it starts its tricks,
And it makes us wholly cross!

There are 120 policemen living within earshot of that "tin kettle." At present the torture begins at 6.55 a.m., but all through November last, and in Lent, it began at 5.55. In our simple Bible teaching we learn that 666 was the "Number of the Beast." Bell-ringing at 6.55 (a.m.) is very beastly.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCXXXI.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

A DEPLORABLE ROMFORD CASE.

We appeal this week on behalf of a distressed family living at Romford. They are no less than ten in number,—father, mother and 8 little children, the eldest a boy not yet 12 years of age. The father, a steady and hard-working man, after walking the streets day after day for four months looking for work, obtained two or three weeks ago a job as watchman, at which he earns 12s. per week. Out of this they have to pay 6s. 6d. for rent and 4d. insurance, leaving the meagre sum of 5s. 2d. for the maintenance of his eight children, his wife and himself. To quote the poor mother's own words: "The eldest boy, being not quite 12, is unable to earn anything, and the others are all ailing for the want of proper nourishment. If I could only have a little help in the way of food and firing it would be a godsend. We should also be so grateful for any cast-off clothes—for they have hardly anything to stand up in, for notwithstanding all the patching I do, the things they have are beyond mending." The poor woman herself is in very delicate health, owing to the want of nourishment, and is in consequence unable to do any work beyond looking after her children. They have had to part with almost all they possessed for food. We sincerely hope that our appeal may be the means of succour reaching these poor people.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXXVIII.—"Mat," 1s.; "Don," 6d.; W. H. T., 1s.; "Little Pilpher," 2s.

CCXXIX.—"Sym," 1s.; W., 5s.; W. A. C., 2s.; "Corner House," 4s.; "Jack Straw," 10s.; "Morris," 1s.; "Wray," 2s. 6d.; "Fipp," 1s.; "An Admirer," 10s. 6d.; C. and F., 1s.; "Another Sympathiser," 10s.; Mrs. E. F., 1s.; D. I. C. K., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. W., 2s. 6d.; J. H. N., 2s. 6d.; "Well Wisher B.," 1s.; J. H., 2s. 6d.; "Little Pilpher," 2s.; "Bachelor," 5s.; "Widow H.," 2s.; R. T., 1s.; "Dobs" (Dover), two parcels; "Dorothy," one parcel; "Sympathiser," 2s. 6d.; E. P., 2s.; J. D. B., 1s.

CCXXX.—F. S., 1s.; J. L., 1s.; W. R. M., 1s.; W. C. J., 20s.; J. McE., 1s.; V. E. G., 2s.; H. H. B., 2s. 6d.; "A Friend," 1s. 6d.; J. A. D., 2s. 6d.; "N.C.O's and Men of the Band," 13s.; "An Admirer," 10s. 6d.; C. S., 1s.; "Elgype," 3s. 4d.; "Ivy Mary," 1s.; A. J. E. S., 4s.

OUR COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" fund by means of collecting boxes, which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others.

London.—"Sympathiser," 16s. 8½d.; Mr. J. C. Egan, "Black Lion," 273, High Road, Kilburn, 1s.; Mr. C. McCarthy, Messrs. Garcia, Jacobs and Co., Langley Street, Covent Garden, £3 9s.; Mr. A. J. Blowes, "The Colville," King's Road, Chelsea, 1s. 6½d.; Mr. F. Costa, West End Hotel, Coventry Street, 3s. 1d.; Mr. E. H. Westley, "The Castle," Old Kent Road, 1s. 8d.; Mr. R. S. Tolputt, "The Crown," Crown Court, Fleet Street, 1s. 6d.; Mr. W. E. Hallpike, "The Old Globe," 191, Mile End Road, 3s. 6d.; Mr. E. Pulman, 8, Burdett Road, Bow, 1s.; Mrs. Marks, "Archduke Charles," Rodney Road, Walworth, 1s. 4d.; Mr. F. W. Pile, 33, Southwark Bridge Road, 1s. 1d.; Mrs. Lyon, 40, Old Kent Road, 1s. 11d.; Mr. P. Backer, 256, Walworth Road, 1s. 6d.; Mr. B. Barney, 154, Kentish Town Road, 2s. 11d.; Mr. E. H. Gilbert, "George Canning," Effra Road, Brixton, 3s. 6½d.; Mr. G. Edwards, "Clayton Arms," Kennington Oval, 2s. 1d.; Mr. A. Hall, with thanks to the White Hart F.C., "White Hart," Borough Road, 3s.; Mr. F. Huggins, "Brunswick Arms," Stamford Street, S.E., 2s.

Croydon.—Mr. G. Heath, Messrs. G. Coates and Son, 19, Church Street, 3s.

South Wales.—Mr. Laurie Nuttall, "Tivoli," Tumble, 1s.

Reading.—Mr. Waite, Broad Street, 1s.

Leeds.—Mr. J. T. Rothwell, "Cemetery Tavern," 5s. 4d.; Mr. H. Brown, Queen's Arcade, 1s. 7½d.

Bristol.—Mr. W. G. ...atjen, "The Grotto," 1s. 2d.; Mr. A. J. Duckemin, "Seven Stars," Thomas Lane, 1s. 3d.

Total, £5 12s. 3d., of which we have allocated to CCXXII. 10s., CCXXIII. 19s. 0½d., CCXXVII. 20s., CCXXVIII. 20s., CCXXIX 20s., and CCXXX. £1 3s. 2½d.

£5 a Week for Life CAN be Won and YOU May Win It.

Every piece of Furniture a bargain, our huge stock being cleared at almost actual cost.

GREAT SALE AT OXFORD STREET

The greatest sale ever held by us in the course of fifty years.

OAK DRESSER
as illustrated
£8 15 0

OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS WORTH—all genuine examples of our fine stock of furniture has during the currency of this sale been written down to almost the actual cost—and all our clients, both past, present and prospective are cordially invited to take full advantage of the very exceptional reductions which are the outstanding feature of our sale.

A visit to our Great Sale will enable you to make a first hand selection from one of the most magnificent and desirable Sale Stocks in London. The very latest and best examples of the furniture maker's craft are ranged side by side in our conveniently situated galleries and every piece or suite shown will tempt you at the price.

Write for our Sale Catalogue to-day.

For the thousands who wish to take advantage of our present sale prices and who, at the same time want further special terms, we offer our

GRADUAL PAYMENTS.

All you are required to pay is a small sum per month or per quarter, arranged so that the complete purchase is made in a term of one, two or three years as may suit your convenience. No interest is charged for this, and it follows that it costs you no more to purchase in this way.

10% ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

GENERAL TERMS.

£10	Worth	£0	6	0	per Month
20	,,	0	11	0	,,
30	,,	0	17	0	,,
40	,,	1	5	0	,,
50	,,	1	8	0	,,
100	,,	2	5	0	,,
200	,,	4	10	0	,,
500	,,	11	5	0	,,
1,000	,,	22	10	0	,,

BEDROOM SUITE as illustrated, £10 10 0.

We do not charge interest or require deposit. Country Customers' fares are paid on any order over £50. Every article purchased is very carefully packed and delivered to any required address free of all cost. Any Carpets or Linos bought will be laid free, and schemes for completely furnishing a house in various original and attractive styles will be submitted at your request. £10,000 of Secondhand Furniture always in stock.

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OXFORD ST. SHOWROOMS:
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HOURS OF BUSINESS: Oxford Street—9 till 8; Saturdays 9 till 1 o'cock. Mare Street—9 till 9; Thursdays 9 till 1 o'clock.

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

1st Navvy: Wot does *yore* ole woman fink erbart votes for wimmin?

2nd Navvy: Fink erbart it? I'd like ter see 'er fink erbart it! Votes fur wimmin! It'll be votes fur *h*undesirable *h*aliens nex'!

1st Navvy: I dunno ser much. There's somethink ter be sed fur it. There's some wimmin wot's got minds of their own, same es you an' me. My ole gell's one of 'em. She knows pretty near es much erbart polertics es wot I do.

2nd Navvy: *Thet* ain't sayin' much fur 'er, giv' yer my word, haw-haw!

1st Navvy: Fink so? I tell yer wot, ole son, I'd giv' *you* a stawt et torkin' polertics enny dye, an' beat cher, 'an's down.

2nd Navvy: Don't tork ser silly! You on'y know wot chew read in ther *Dily Noos an' Leader*. You don't fink fur yerself, mate.

1st Navvy: Wot erbart chew? Don't I see yer rubbin' yer nose on ther *Dily Mile h*every mornin'?

2nd Navvy: P'raps yer do. I ain't ershimed of it. But I finks fur meself orl ther sime, *and*, I reads John Bull, mate! It 'ud do you a bit er good too, mate.

1st Navvy: Wot, thet? 'Ow would it?

2nd Navvy: Broaden yer blinkin' mind, ole son; show yer wot's wot, an' 'oo's 'oo, an' w'ich is w'ich.

1st Navvy: W'y don' cher keep ter the pint? We wos torkin' erbart votes fur wimmin, wosn't we?

2nd Navvy: *You* wos, mate; an' I told yer wot I fought erbart it. Wimmin's orl very well in their wye an' in their plice; but polertics ain't their wye, an' ther pollin' station ain't their plice. I'm fond of ther gals I am, an' I'm prard of it. I likes ter see 'em wiv their 'air done stylish, wearin' saucy clobber, wiv ribbons an' fevvers on it, an' tricky shoes. An' thet's wot I like erbart my ole gal—she keeps 'erself es neat es wot she wos w'en I wos walkin' art wiv 'er. But w'en I sees a woman standin' up an' torkin' polertics to a crard till she's black in ther fice, I'm orf it. I'm not takin' enny, mate. I pawss it on. My ole gal don't want no vote. She'd sooner go ter see ther pickshurs on Sa'dy night enny dye. An' qui' right too, I say. W'en there's enny votin' wants doin', I'll attend ter thet; an she kin 'ave 'er drop er gin in ther privit bar w'ile I'm a-doin' of it. See?

1st Navvy: Thet's becos you beleeve in keepin' wimmin under, makin' blinkin' 'ouse'old slaves of 'em.

2nd Navvy: An' you beleeve in votes fur wimmin becos yore ole woman keeps *you* under, ole son. Ev'rybody in ther street torks erbart it.

1st Navvy: Then they're a lot of blarsted liars—thet's orl.

2nd Navvy: Keep yer temper, mate. You'll want it w'en you git 'ome, ercordin' to wot I've 'eard.

1st Navvy: Wotter *you* 'eard, may I awsk?

2nd Navvy: Never you mind wot I've 'eard. I've *'eard*, thet's orl.

1st Navvy: Jer fink I care a cuss wot chew've 'eard?

2nd Navvy: Don't yore ole woman meet chew *h*every Sa'dy ter git cher wages, mate?

1st Navvy: W'y shouldn't she? She 'as ther spendin' of 'em.

2nd Navvy: Don't she poke 'er 'ead in ther dore at ther Dook 'er Wellin'ton at 10 er'clock *h*every night an' give you ther weeze?

1st Navvy: She's nervous. She don't like bein' in ther 'ouse erlone arter ten. Thet's wot it is.

2nd Navvy: Nervous! She looks blinkin' nervous, mate. Erfraid ter go 'ome in ther dark, eh, ole son? Haw, haw!

1st Navvy: Look 'ere, don'chew be ser bloomin' free in yer tork erbart my ole woman.

2nd Navvy: Jealous?

1st Navvy: Wot, jealous er *you*?

2nd Navvy: Haw, haw! Don' chew worry, ole son. W'y, blest if this ain't Leyton. Ther time do pawss w'en yer torkin' polertics, don't it, mate. Goo' night. Remember me to ther missus. Haw, haw!

1st Navvy: Push orf!

MORE TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES.

By Ricardo.

I.

There is an old soldier who thinks
That all of us should take the shilling;
And woe to the fellow who shrinks,
And cheers for the fellow who's willing.
Old England's in danger, he says,
That's why in his age he's insisting
It is highly incumbent on us
To not be so slow in enlisting.

Refrain:
Do I know where he lives?
Oh, yes!
His prescription he thinks England's mascot,
And his telegraphic address
Is "*Conscription, Ascot.*"

II.

There is a brave bhoy over here
From the odorous banks of the Liffey,
He hopes that the Bill he holds dear
Will turn into an Act in a jiffey.
For he thinks that at last 'twill secure
Pure justice for poor distressed Ireland,
It doesn't concern him a bit,
If injustice is done to the sireland.

Refrain:
Do I know where he lives?
Oh, yes!
If him with a wire you'd be troublin',
Well, his telegraphic address
Is "*Uncrownedking, Dublin.*"

III.

There is a sweet lady who lives
Quite near to the shrine of a poet;
The fact fine advertisement gives,
And she doesn't mind letting us know it.
But, whether the poet or she
On the neighbourhood sheds the more glory,
Depends upon if you prefer
"Macbeth," or a six-shilling story.

Refrain:
Do I know where she lives?
Oh, yes!
On my heart her direction is graven;
For her telegraphic address
Is "*Immortal, Stratford-on-Avon.*"

IV.

A gentleman, quite half a Scot,
With speech that is raspish, not hearty,
Has proved that he kens what is what,
For now he's the head of his party.
When the cry "B.M.G.!" rose, he stood
Aloof as a matter of honour,
And when they chose him to succeed,
There was no one more startled than Bonar.

Refrain:
Do I know where he lives?
Oh, yes!
But, wire ere his greatness is undone,
For his telegraphic address
Is "*Stopgap, London.*"

SONGS AND THEIR APPLICATION.

Everybody's Booing It	The Party System.
Everybody's Brewing It	Class Strife.
Everybody's Chewing It	The Ulster Rag.
Everybody's Cue-ing It	The Wrong Ball.
Everybody's Stewing It	The Sultan's Goose.
Everybody's True-ing It	The Wheel of Fortune.
Everybody's Glue-ing It	The Insurance Stamp.
Everybody's Hewing It	The Tree of Knowledge.
Everybody's Queue-ing It ..	The Pit Door.
Everybody's Shoo-ing It	The Wandering Hen.
Everybody's Doing It	The Simple "Nut."
Everybody's Screwing It ..	The Loose "Nut."
Everybody's Viewing It	The Human Race.
Everybody's Wooing It	The Big "Bullets" Prize

2,000 Additional Prizes for "Bullets" Competitors. See page 182.

TO EVERYBODY WHO IS GREY.

Message from the Greatest Living Authority on Hair Culture to Every Grey-haired Man and Woman.

ASTOUNDING SUCCESS OF MR. EDWARDS' LATEST INVENTION—HIS GENEROUS GIFT TO THE NATION.

FREE REMEDY TO ALL.

Thousands of grey-haired men and women have written to Mr. Edwards, as the recognised authority on all hair ailments, pleading for help and advice.

That they did not approach him in vain is evinced by the many expressions of heartfelt gratitude and praise for the wonderful benefits conferred upon them by Mr. Edwards in permanently eradicating all signs of greyness from their hair and thus preserving their youthful appearance and enabling them to maintain their position in the business and social firmaments.

Now that greyness has become so prevalent and that the fame of Mr. Edwards' treatment has spread so far and wide, he finds it impossible to treat each case individually.

Feeling at the same time that he cannot disregard the appeals of the nation, Mr. Edwards has come forward with

A MAGNANIMOUS OFFER.

Every Grey-Haired lady and gentleman will benefit by this great sacrifice — a sacrifice which can be appreciated by those who know how all previous attempts to cure Greyness by pernicious hair dyes, &c., have failed, and how completely Mr. Edwards' discovery—ASTOL—succeeded.

THEN AND NOW

This most magnificent offer is made to every grey-haired man and woman. You need only fill in the Coupon below to secure a Bottle of ASTOL—the wonder of the age—not a dye, but a natural preparation which causes the hair to colour itself—Free.

ASTOL is a treatment which needs only to be applied once or twice to prove its absolute efficacy.

ASTOL has aptly been described as "Nature's own remedy for Greyness." It is not a dye, but a food for the pigment cells—the tiny organisms which supply the hair with natural hair colourings.

This is just the significant feature which differentiates ASTOL from artificial colourings, which at best only give temporary satisfaction, and always mean absolute and lasting disaster to the hair itself.

Better a thousand times have totally white hair than suffer baldness and scalp irritation caused by hair-destroying chemical dyes.

THERE IS NO MYSTERY.

The enduring success of ASTOL in curing Greyness without dyeing is due to the fact that it assists Nature. It reinforces the hair pigment cells so that they produce a never-ceasing flow of colour to the hair and gradually gives the hair a healthier and more youthful appearance day by day.

Mr. Edwards' discovery—ASTOL—is based upon the closest personal study and knowledge of the hair. The world is the gainer by the success of ASTOL.

This free public distribution of ASTOL will be the means of making many homes brighter—many men appear younger and more self-reliant—and will restore to many ladies the charms of their younger days.

ASTOL only takes two or three minutes to apply, and when once your hair's colour has been restored you will no longer need to use it. There is no bothering and annoying dyeing to be performed day by day—year in an year out.

LET ASTOL RESTORE THE LOST COLOUR TO YOUR HAIR.

Remember that ASTOL is in no sense a dye or stain, but a natural nourishment for the hair-colouring tissues.

ASTOL cures all forms of greyness.

ASTOL quickly renews the natural colour of grey or white hair.

ASTOL cures total greyness even of long standing.

ASTOL eliminates patches of greyness over the temples and near the ears.

ASTOL makes you look years younger in a few weeks.

WRITE TO-DAY.

As you value the future well-being of your hair, act to-day, as Mr. Edwards naturally cannot distribute an unlimited supply of ASTOL.

There is sure to be an immediate response to Mr. Edwards' generous offer, and you are advised to fill in the Coupon, which entitles you to a Free Bottle of ASTOL and a copy of Mr. Edwards' remarkable brochure entitled "Good News for the Grey-Haired"—a book which gives a most interesting insight into the wonder-working properties of ASTOL.

First fill in the Coupon and test ASTOL at Mr. Edwards' expense, then you can obtain ASTOL from all the leading chemists and stores in 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. bottles, or direct (on enclosing price) and post free from Edwards' Harlene Co., 104, High Holborn, London, W.C.

"FOR CURING GREYNESS" FREE COUPON.

To the EDWARDS' HARLENE CO.,
104, High Holdorn, London, W.C.

DEAR SIRS,—
I should like to prove the merits of the "Astol" methods of restoring grey hair to its original colour—free of cost.

Please send the Free Trial Treatment (in plain sealed wrapper) to the following address (2d. in stamps to pay carriage to any part of the world. Foreign stamps accepted.)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

POLICEMAN: "Halloa! Whatever are you doing that for?"
CLUBMAN: "It's all right, sir (*hic*), I know she's in 'cos there's a light upstairs."

IMMORAL FABLES.

By F. W. Thomas.

Now there was a Certain Man, who was Wondrous Rich, Bloated in Fact. All his Life he has Kept his Nose down on his Desk, Amassing Money.

And the Time Came when he said to Himself, "I will Work no More.

"I will Lift my Nose from the Grindstone, and Have a Good Time.

"I will paint the Cosmic System Crimson Lake."

And so he set off in Pursuit of Happiness. But so Long had he Bent his Back over the Desk that he could not now Raise his Head.

Nevertheless, Rheumatics and All, he Pottered along the Road, in Chase of that Elusive Jack o' Lanthorn, a "Good Time."

As he Followed his Quest, he Passed on the Way Little Children playing, but he Heeded them Not.

He Passed the young Birds in the Hedgerows, just Cracking their Way through the Sky-blue Eggshells into the Bright World. But he Heeded them Not.

And there Passed over His Head, all Unheeded, the Pageant of the Year; from Bare Twig to Bud, from Bud to Blossom, from Blossom to Berry.

Still he blundered ahead in his Pursuit of Happiness.

Until, at the End of the Road, he saw an Old Man sitting in the Shade of a Tree.

Said the Old Man, "What Haste, and What seek Ye?"

And the Traveller said, "I seek Happiness. Perchance you are He."

"No," said the Old Man. "I am not Happiness. You passed Her on the Road. She was Travelling the other Way. . . . I am Death."

And the Traveller Stopped and Rested in the Shade.

Moral:—The Destination is Always the Same; it is only the Journey that Matters.

THE MAN AND HIS CREED.

VI.—MR. BONAR LAW.

I believe in preparing one good speech and sticking to it.

I believe in taxing imported foreign corn.

I believe it is the only way to give our Colonies a preference.

I believe Colonial Preference is the only way to save the British Empire from disruption and destruction.

I believe it is a vital necessity.

I believe in studying the exigences of Party politics.

I believe in swallowing my political principles when the interests of my Party demand it.

I believe most emphatically in the policy I expounded at Ashton-under-Lyne.

I believe in putting Austen Chamberlain's nose out of joint, to the end that I may establish myself more firmly in my leadership.

I believe in embarrassing the Government at all costs.

I believe in Votes for Women; but——

I believe in embarrassing the Government more.

I believe in everlastingly gibing at the Prime Minister about the Preamble to the Parliament Act.

I believe in continually comparing the Government's practices to the Rake's Progress.

I believe in Business Government; but——

I believe we shall play the same old Party game when we take office.

I believe we should be fools if we didn't.

I believe all the other parties in the House are ignorant, inept, incompetent, and vindictive.

I believe in keeping Arthur Balfour in his place.

I believe Walter Long likes me not.

I believe I have dished all the traitors who were conspiring against my leadership with my *volte face* over the corn tax business.

I believe I shall be Prime Minister before the year is out.

Your LAST CHANCE to Win Our £5 a Week for Life.

LOOK AT THE PRICES!

Remarkable Success of the Great Sale in Southampton Row.

£100,000 worth of Furniture going at Bargain Prices.

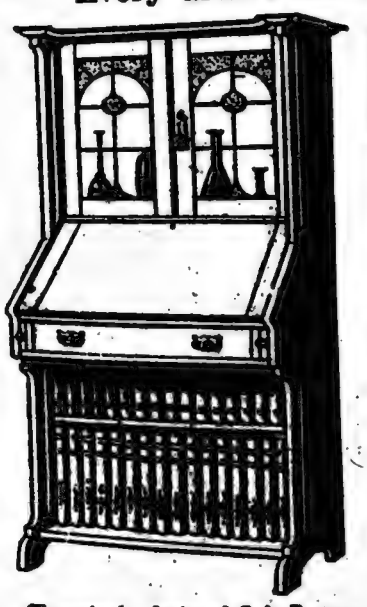
Adjustable Chair in various art colours, **21/-**

Quaint Oak Bedroom Suite with 2 Rush-seated Chairs as shown, **£5.15.0**

It will soon be too late for you to take advantage of the splendid Bargains to be obtained during this great Sale. The huge stock is rapidly disappearing. Don't delay any longer. Remember that if you are not actually ready to receive the furniture, we will store it free of charge for six months, thus enabling you to take full advantage of the huge reductions which have been made in our prices.

Send for our Sale Catalogue to-day.

Every article can be purchased on our Ideal Payment System. See terms below.



Charmingly designed Oak Bureau, well-made and finished any shade **£2.18.6**

TERMS.

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£10	£0 6 0	10% Discount for Cash.
£20	0 11 0	
£50	1 8 0	
£100	2 5 0	No Charge for Credit.
£200	4 10 0	
£500	11 5 0	

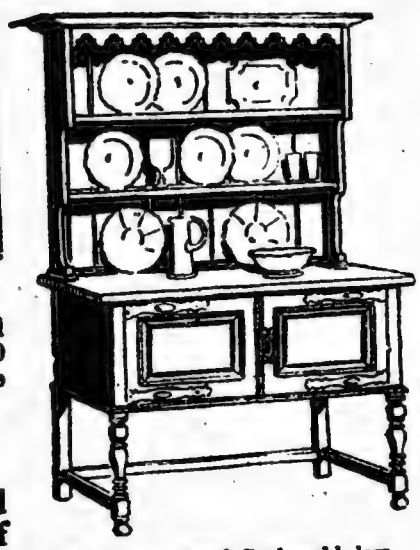
Or by any proportionate payments to suit purchaser's convenience.

Railway Fares Paid on Country Orders.

In order that Country Customers may make a personal selection we pay their fares to town on all orders of £20 and upwards. Country orders packed and delivered free

Get our Sale Bargain Catalogue To-day.

Fill in the coupon below and we will send you a copy at once, giving illustrations of hundreds of special bargains to be found in our spacious showrooms.



Oak Dresser, fitted Cupboard below with Oxydised Hinges **£3.3.0**

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.

15 to 23 Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Hours—9 to 8.

Fill in and post this Coupon To-day.

Please send me post free a copy of your Sale Bargain Catalogue.

Name..... .....

Address.....

.....

B 5

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS, AND TELEGRAMS.

To Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, Premier, House of Commons.

Dear Prime Minister,—I am well aware that your parliamentary cart is somewhat heavily loaded for the time being, but when you have a moment to spare I do wish you would glance at the provisions of the Spurious Sports Bill, which you will find in one of the pigeon-holes in the paper department, with a view to finding a corner for it on the Statute book. I have often called attention to the abominable cruelty perpetrated by the men and women, or by those who call themselves men and women, who take part in carted deer hunts. These atrocious chases are not sport in any sense at all. Another inhuman outrage was done a few days ago by the members of the Surrey Staghounds, who met near Horley. The frightened deer, released from the cart, made for Redhill, speeded through Earlswood, dashed into the goods station of the London and Brighton Railway Company, crossed gardens, ran along the banks of the brook, through the centre of the town, swam through a culvert, leapt on to the pavement, and then, on being headed off, crossed the railway arch and was lost to view, to be eventually taken in an exhausted and almost dying state at Chipstead. I am confident that it is in accord with public sentiment that these exhibitions under the name of sport should cease. The incidents of these displays are not casual; they are, in fact, the essence of the "sport," and vary only in the degree of the suffering they impose on the quarry. Sport, by all means, dear Premier, but let us put an end to this degrading caricature of it in our English life.

John Bull.

To Admiral Sir Percy Scott, Bart.

Silent Sir,—I am still awaiting either a reply or a writ, or a summons, from you. Every member of the King's Navy is also waiting for you to move. At every Service Club the topic of conversation is the conspiracy, revealed by me, in which you took an active part, to undermine the authority of your senior officer, Lord Charles Beresford, and to endanger the loyalty and discipline of the lower deck. Come, Sir, what have you to say? Do you plead guilty?

And, when answering, you might enlighten me on one or two other points. I have been wondering how the papers get to know so much about your wonderful doings.

How did the particulars of your Firing Director get into the press last December?

How did the pressmen get particulars of the percentage of hits in battle practice—details which I was under the impression were confidential?

Is it the fact that, as a result of these public disclosures, the German Navy is now experimenting with a Firing Director which is practically a copy of yours?

Firing Director! There is one Director of the British Navy whom a Business Government would soon "fire."

John Bull.

To Dr. Carr-Glyn, Bishop of Peterborough.

My Dear Lord Bishop,—You are discovered. You are exposed. You are utterly undone. One of your clergy, the Rev. J. P. Sandlands, vicar of Brigstock, Thrapston, Northants, says that on catching you smoking recently he ventured some wholesome advice against your pernicious habit, that you thereupon laid your pipe and tobacco pouch on the table, and that I am to guess what happened. But how *can* I guess? He may have thrown the implements on the fire, or he may have annexed them as trophies of his missionary zeal, or, in the solitude of his study he may be—no, that might be libel! I am sure I don't know what the world is coming to. Now that the vicar has taken you off your smoke, my dear Lord, I suppose the next thing he will do will be to take you off your drink, and that you won't even be able to consume a little apostolic wine, for your stomach's sake, lest at last it stingeth like a serpent and biteth like an adder. Evidently he hasn't heard of the German legend that first the Lord made man, then he made woman, then he felt sorry for the man and made tobacco. Don't you think, with me, that this particular vicar doesn't deserve preferment? Pish to him. Likewise tush.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, M.P., Home Office.

Dear Home Secretary,—I cannot think that you approve of the system whereby hundreds of men and women are sent to gaol every week for no worse offence than their inability to pay the fines which have been imposed upon them for trifling offences. My attention has been drawn to a particularly sad case. A man with a wife and seven dependent children had been out of employment for fifteen months. At the end of this period he committed a breach of the law and was haled before the magistrate, who held that a monetary penalty would meet the justice of the case, and accordingly fined the culprit a pound, or in default seven days'. The man hadn't a sovereign in the world, and was therefore sent to prison for the first time. He now returns to the grim struggle for a livelihood branded as a gaol-bird—hopelessly handicapped for all time. His case is but one of hundreds. Every week men are leaving our prisons broken by the cruel injustice of a system which makes poverty a crime.

Here we have a system which is fundamentally wrong. If an offence is properly expiated by a money payment, it is a crying shame that a man should go to gaol because he has been less fortunate than another charged with a similar fault.

It is your duty to initiate and carry through a measure which will put an end to the enduring stigma that the severity of our criminal law is tempered to the well-to-do while pressing with cruel hardship upon the outcast and the poor.

John Bull.

To Harry Lauder, Esq., The Laird o' Scotland, On tour, U.S.A.

Ma Dear Laddie,—The generous instincts for which you are noted have every opportunity for exercise in a case which I find reported in the *Milngavie and Bearsden Herald*. Among the claims for relief which the Guardians of New Kilpatrick seem to have had before them at a recent sitting, was one from a man whom the Clerk said "was the stepfather of Harry Lauder, and who had brought up the famous comedian." I am sure you will be gratified to learn that the claim was granted, more especially as, according to an alleged interview with you in one of the American papers, you intend to retire when you have £125,000 (I think that is the sum), and you have already £100,000 towards it. By the way, I see in a Glasgow paper that you refused a fee of £500 to sing at a smoking concert organised by the American Tobacco Company's officials, on the ground that you are earning too much already. I am awfu' glad to know you are getting on so well, laddie, and I am not the only one—for, from what I hear, the heart of your father-in-law jumps with joy every time you draw your week's money at the thought that he brought up such a fine boy.

John Bull.

To the Lord Cheylesmore, Chairman, London County Council.

My Lord,—I have been looking over the reports of some of your recent proceedings, and I am rather surprised to find so many important contracts going to foreign firms with unpronounceable names. Is there really any good reason why your Council should put work and wages into the hands of outsiders? British work for British workers is a good maxim—all politics apart—and when a public body has contracts to distribute British firms should come first—yes, even if the price is a little higher. Cheapness is not everything—where starving families are concerned. By observing this rule more closely you would, I am sure, be rightly interpreting the wishes of the ratepayers of London.

John Bull.

To Enver Bey, Cabinet Maker, Constantinople.

Don't mind you raising a dust in Constantinople, but object you starting another row in Europe. Young Turks acting like old fools.

Bull.

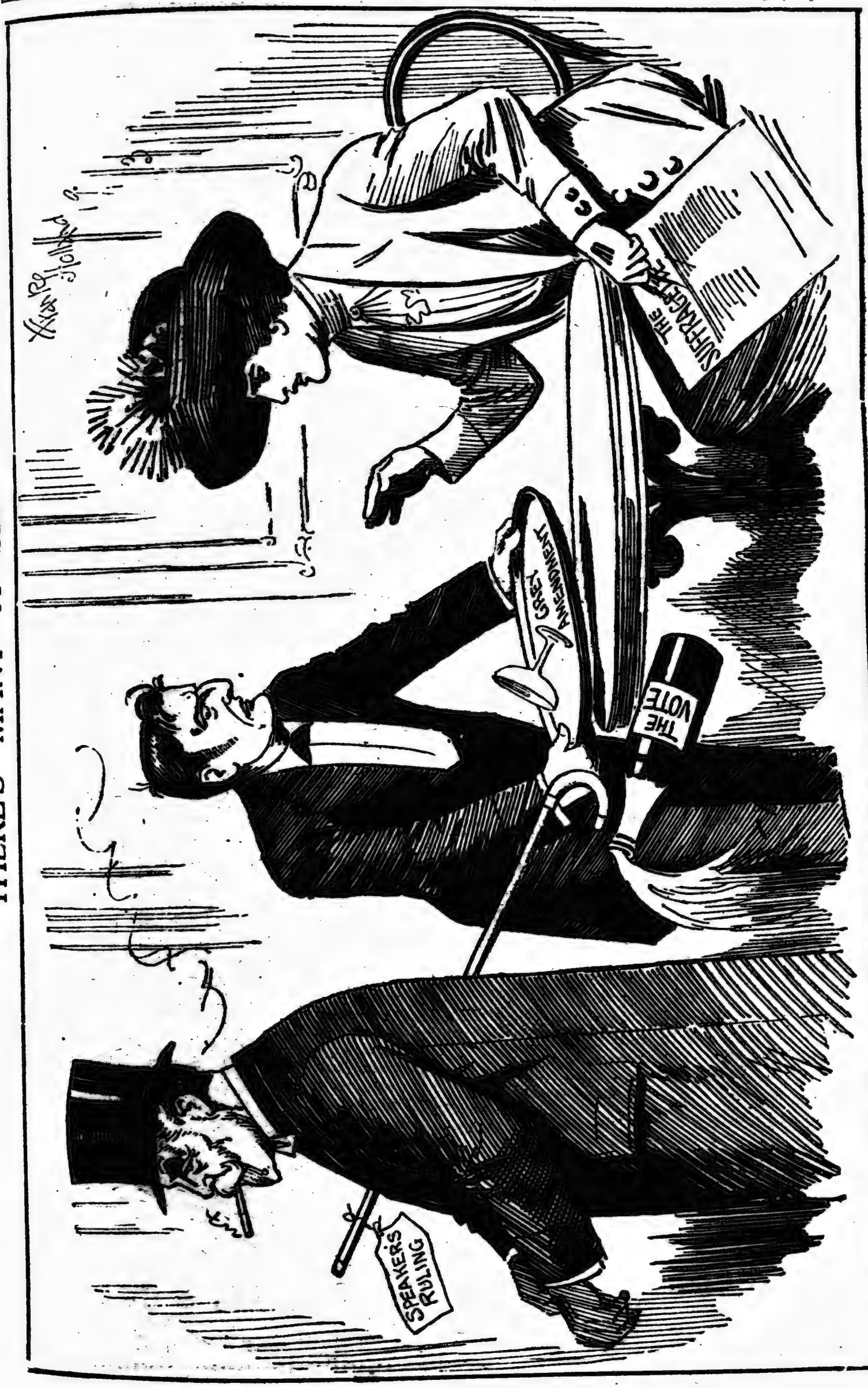
To Neil Primrose, M.P., House of Commons.

Sorry hear your confession suffrage debate in House that you do not know one end of a baby from another. *Nil des.* What worries many people with babies is that they cannot make both ends meet.

Bull.

A Plain and STRAIGHT Offer—£5 a Week for Life. **See page 171.**

"THERE'S MANY A SLIP—



—TWIXT THE CUP AND THE LIP."

IN THE CONSULTING ROOM OF DR. BULL.

By Walter Moore.

III.—MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

Tell him to wait his turn. . . . Who? . . Lloyd George? . . . I don't care who he is, he must wait his turn. . . . Does he think I am one of his tame panel doctors? Pshaw! . . . The idea! . . .

* * * * * * *

Take a seat. . . . Don't trouble, sir . . . I don't want your card. . . . You have called on me in my professional capacity, I take it? . . . Quite so. . . . Kept you waiting? . . . Of course I kept you waiting! . . . Do you think you can bounce into my consulting room without ceremony and put my regular patients to serious inconvenience? . . . No, sir: you don't play that game with me, sir. . . .

Now, then, what's your trouble? . . . Pains in the head? . . . Hum! Let's see the tongue. . . . That'll do, that'll do . . . I only want to see a few inches of it . . . I won't put you to the inconvenience of putting it all out. . . . Huh! slightly liverish, I should say . . . excess of gall . . . premonitory symptoms of jaundice. . . . You must be particularly careful as regards diet. . . . Avoid biting off more than you can chew, and masticate everything thoroughly. . . .

Not your only disagreeable symptom? . . . Well, well—what *are* the others? . . . Spots before the eyes, and bad dreams at night? . . . Ah! . . . What form do the dreams take? . . . Confused visions of animated figures? . . . Imagine you are being chased by the figure 4, while you in your turn struggle desperately to overtake the figure 9? . . . Do you ever succeed in catching it? No? . . . Not even in your dreams? . . . Ha, ha! That's very quaint! You find the ninepence is a little too nimble for you, eh? . . . Ha, ha! Any other queer dreams? . . . Why do I ask? . . . Well, the character of a dream helps a doctor in his diagnosis . . . it enables him to judge whether the trouble is mental or stomachic, whether its seat is in the liver or the kidneys, the pancreas or the solar plexus. . . . Had a sort of nightmare last night? . . . Yes, yes; very disagreeable, I have no doubt. . . . Thought you were earning the maternity benefit in a sanatorium under the Insurance Act? . . . Ha, ha, ha! Ho, ho, ho! . . . You must excuse my laughing . . . Ha, ha! . . . And you were being attended by a whole panel of doctors? . . . Ha, ha, ha! . . . And you were delivered of a Birmingham policeman in full uniform? . . . Ho, ho, ho! . . . My *dear* sir, you'll be the death of me! . . . . What? The policeman immediately took you in charge and locked you up in a hen-house, where you went to sleep roosting? . . . Ha, ha, ha! . . . And you woke up drenched with perspiration? . . .

My dear sir, all this is very serious. . . . It indicates a very disordered mental condition . . . I am afraid your only chance of recovery is to take a rest cure . . . you must go abroad . . . anywhere; it doesn't matter where: but the farther off the better. . . . Anyhow, you must get out of England without delay, for your health's sake, er—and, er—England's. . . . Thought of spending a week at Limehouse Reach? . . . No, sir; don't think of it. The air down there is too stimulating. . . . You need a more relaxing atmosphere, such as the Scilly Isles, or—no, Monte Carlo would be fatal. . . . The sight of so much unearned increment would excite you. . . . You might try Algiers. . . .

The fact of the matter is, you have been overworking yourself. You have overtaxed your powers, and—well, that way madness lies. . . . Take ten grains of bromide of potassium in water at night before going to bed, and have a good budget of amusing books within reach, to while away the time until you fall asleep. . . .

My fee? . . . Well, sir, if I were to consult my own feelings, I should prefer to make no charge, as some small recognition of all you have done for the medical profession. But it would not be fair to my fellow practitioners; so—well, let us say *ninepence*, ha, ha, ha! . . .

Good evening—and don't forget the bromide!

Look out for another exceptionally attractive Football Competition next week.

"THAT FREE PRESCRIPTION IS WONDERFUL."

"I'M ENTIRELY RID OF MY PAINS."

A message from Hull: "You ought to publish this for the benefit of others, as I am sure the prescription is the most wonderful thing I have ever tried. My pains were so bad that I had not slept for weeks, and the night the chemist filled it for me I slept for eight hours. Now I haven't a pain, the Sciatica or Lumbago, or whatever it was, is gone, and my wife is cured of her bad neuralgic headaches. It's truly wonderful.

"This is the prescription just as I cut it from the paper. Ask your nearest chemist for 60 grains of Kephaldol in tablet form. Two tablets will give instant relief, and an occasional one will banish the pain entirely, I think permanently. My family always keep the prescription handy."

'FOOTSHAPE'

THE CORRECT SHAPE.

Various have been the shapes of boots offered to the public during the last few years, but there is only one correct shape—"FOOTSHAPE."

When the freakish lasts were introduced from America with what is called the "Bulldog" toe, and others with a twist in them, we knew very well that they would not remain in public favour. Our contention on this point has been fully borne out, for to-day all other manufacturers admit that the correct shape is "Footshape."

The "Footshape" last is the result of science applied to practical boot-making. It was the correct shape ten years ago—it is the correct shape to-day because it is "Footshape." Send for a pair of these splendid boots TO-DAY made on these famous models and see for yourself.

The boot illustrated here is made of Box Calf, is leather lined throughout, and has a sole 5/16th of an inch thick. It is well made and finished all through, and is the very boot that is required to carry one over the rough weather that we are bound to have the next few months.

If you are not more than satisfied with the value, send them back at our expense and your money will be returned in full. Could anything be fairer?

If size is not known, send an old boot or draw outline of stockinged foot on paper. (Outline of foot is of no use.

144-page CATALOGUE FREE on receipt of 3d. (cost of postage only).

No. 1651. GUIDE FOR ORDERING.

Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8 9, 10, 11. (size 12. 1/- extra). Each size is made in four different widths. No. 3 width (narrow). No. 4 (medium). No. 5 (wide.) No. 6 (extra wide). When ordering, simply quote style No. and state size and width required. *Foreign postage extra.*

Enquiries solicited for shipping.

W. BARRATT & CO., LTD.,

"Footshape" Boot Manufacturers,

(Desk 66) Sterling Works, NORTHAMPTON.

BUCHANAN'S WHISKY

"BLACK — & — WHITE"

The Highest Standard of QUALITY.

Don't Wear a Truss!

After Thirty Years' Experience I Have Produced an Appliance for Men, Women or Children that Cures Rupture.

I SEND IT ON TRIAL

If you have tried most everything else, come to me. Where others fail is where I have my greatest success. Send attached coupon to-day and I will send you free my illustrated book on Rupture and its cure, showing my Appliance nd giving you prices and names of many people who have tried it and are extremely grateful. It is instant relief where all others fail. Remember. I use no salves, no harness, no lies.

I make it to your measure and send it to you on a strict guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded, and I have put my price so low that anybody, rich or poor, can buy it. I send on trial to prove what I say is true. You are the judge, and once having seen my illustrated book and read it you will be as enthusiastic as my thousands of patients whose letters are on file in my office. Fill in free coupon below and post to-day.

The above is C. E. Brooks who has been Curing Rupture for over 30 years. If Ruptured Write him to-day.

FREE INFORMATION COUPON.

C. E. Brooks, 455B, Bank Buildings, Kingsway, London, W.C.

Please send me by post in plain wrapper your Illustrated Book and full information about your Appliance for the cure of rupture.

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ADDRESS .....

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Please write plainly.

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Subscribed Capital £421,408. Paid up Capital £125,352.

Premium Income £120,436.

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Agency Applications invited.

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This book is issued in sections, all containing the same introductory matter, and in addition, each deals with one particular subject, such as:

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These matters are dealt with from the point of view of the man who is ambitious to make his way in life—the man for whom it is necessary to make more money—giving expert information as to the better paid opportunities offered in his work, and how he can take advantage of them.

It contains, too, the opinions of many prominent public men on the methods and achievements of the school, and specimen pages and illustrations from the Instruction Papers used in this greatly successful system of Correspondence Tuition. There may be some who still have doubts as to the efficiency of Correspondence Tuition, especially in technical matters; to such this little volume will prove particularly interesting.

Do not rely on your present prospects, however bright they may seem. It is the trained man—and the trained man only—to whom the future is assured.

A post-card from you, mentioning the section in which you are interested, will bring promptly a free copy of it. Address—

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FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS,

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Send for Photographic Catalogue. Sent post free.

Hours of Business: open every day 9 till8, excepting Saturday. when we close at 1 o'clock.

The following is an abbreviated list of articles now to be seen:—

4 ft. 6 in. Oak Sideboard, £3 12s. 6d.; 6 Dining Chairs and 2 Carving Chairs to match, £4 15s.; Dining Table, 38s. 6d. 12 Overmantels at 17s. 6d.; Large Size well-sprung Chesterfield and 2 Lounge Easies, £7 15s.; 20 Queen Anne Design Dining Room Chairs, Leather Seats, 24s. 6d. each; Massive Elizabethan Design Sideboard, 6 Chairs, and 2 Massive Carving Chairs to match, Heavily Carved Dining Table to match, will accept £17 10s. the suite; 10 ft. Dining Table, 18s. 6d.; Handsome Queen Anne Design Sideboard, £7 15s.

THE BEDROOM FURNITURE comprises 28 Coo plete Bedrooms.

5 Oak Bedroom Suites with full Chest of Drawers to Dressing Chest, £4 10s. 12 Oak Bedsteads at 14s. 6d.; 3 Large Size Walnut Bedroom Suites, £6 15s. 3 Large Size Bedsteads with Sanitary Woven Wire Spring Overlay, Bolster and 2 Pillows, £2 12s. 6d. complete; 4 Handsome Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, £7 15s.; Pair of Twin Bedsteads to Match, 63s.; Large Double Oval Door Bedroom Suite, Sheraton Design, £15 15s.; Reflex Mirrors to Dressing-table. Full-size Bedstead to match, £2 15s.; a very fine Gent's Wardrobe, £6 15s.; Handsome Walnut Dressing Chest and Washstand, £4 10s.; Handsome 6 ft. Louis XV. Bedroom Suite, most exquisite Design, £28; Old Dutch Wardrobe, no reasonable offer refused. 7 ft. Mahogany Wardrobe, fitted two-thirds hanging, one-third drawers and trays, 12 gns.; 3 Large-size Oak Bedroom Suites, £8 15s. Several Chests of Drawers, 18s. 6d.; 6 ft. Inlaid Sheraton design Bedroom Suite, an absolute bargain, 25 gns.; 3 Exquisite Design Inlaid Bedroom Suites, with shaving mirror to washstand, £11; 5 White Enamel Bedroom Suites, £6 10s. Bedstead to match, 30s.

DRAWING ROOMS:—

Chesterfield, 2 Very Comfortable Lounge Easy Chairs and 4 Solid Mahogany Occasional Chairs all covered in fine art Tapestry, £11 11s., worth double; Louis XV. Design Cabinet, £2 15s.; Another, similar design, £4 15s.; 3 Chesterfield, with adjustable endsi £3 15s.; 10 Lounge Easy Chairs, 17s. 6d.; Settee, 2 Tub Easy Chairs, 4 Occas onal Chairs, £6 6s. Upright Piano by Gustav Richter, £18 18s.; Another by Collard and Collard, £36 10s. A very fine selection of Chesterfields and Easy Chairs always in Stock. Also Bed and Table Linen. 50 Carpets from 7s. 6d. Turkey Carpets, all sizes, for £4.

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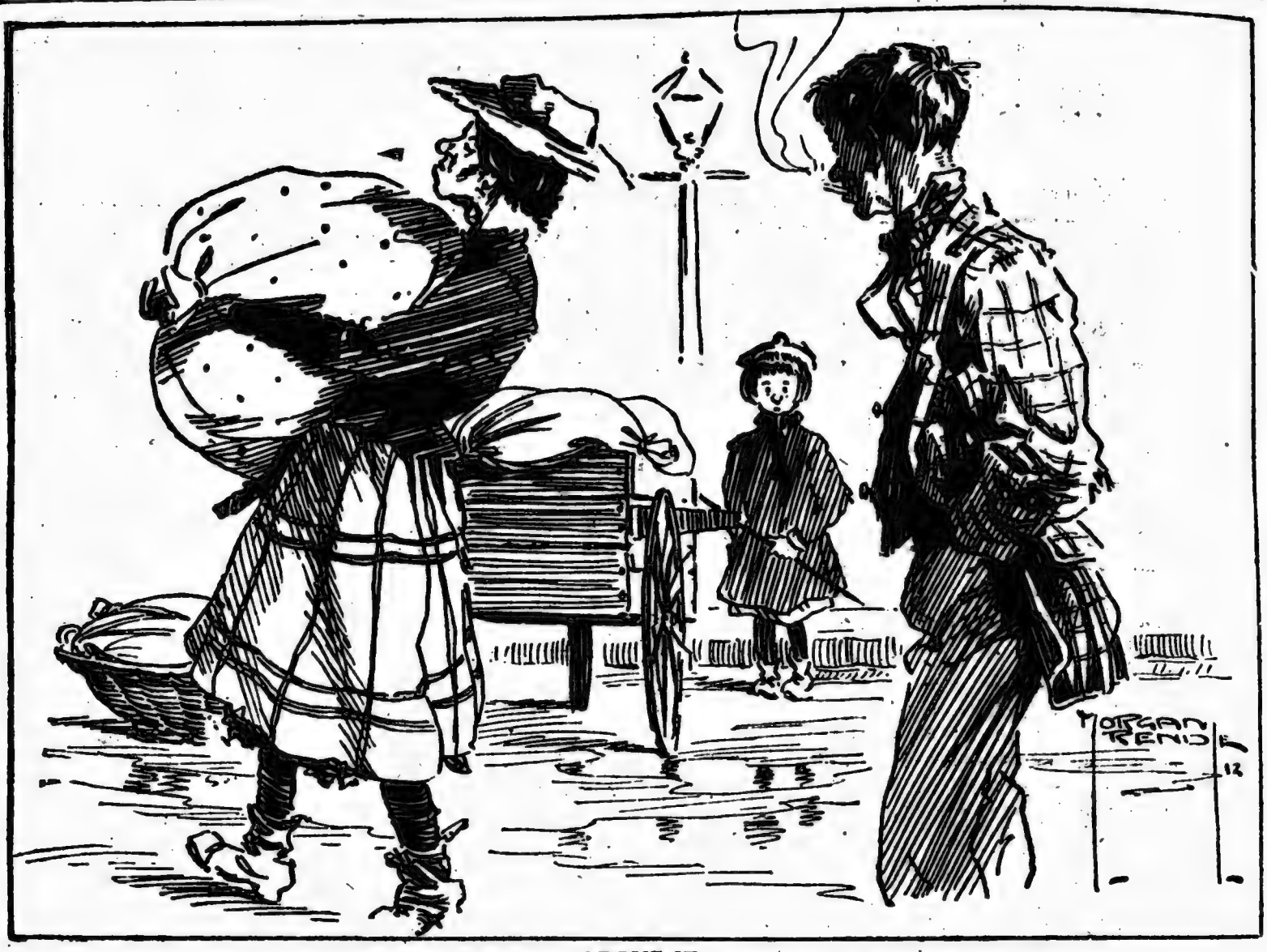


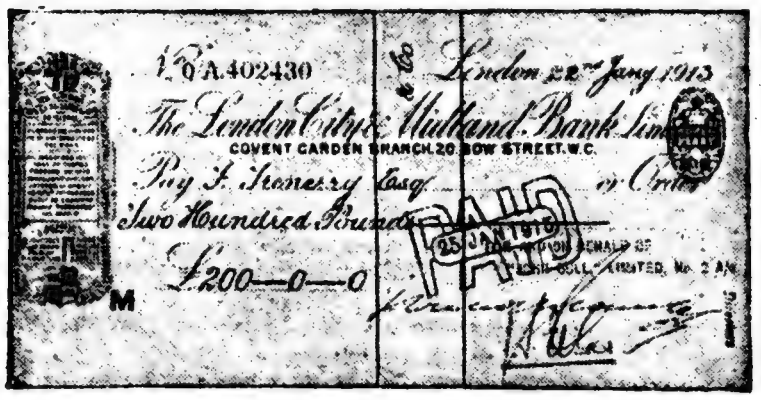
ABOVE IT.

ERB.: "Yer didn't get the job at the 'Empire' that yer swank'd about, then, Liza"?
LIZA: "Nah; the manager fought I were too refined for the part."

RESULT OF "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 14.

A CHAMPION OF LABOUR GETS £200.

Mr. Frank Trenerry, of Totton, near Southampton, the winner of the £200 prize in our Fourteenth "Bullets" Competition, tells us that he received our letter enclosing our cheque on his return from work last Thursday evening. It was naturally a very pleasant surprise. Mr. Trenerry is a working man of the best type. An electrician by trade, he is about thirty years of age, with a wife and three fine children. In the words of one who knows him well, "he is a 'white man' all through—his good fortune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COVENT GARDEN BRANCH, 20 BOW STREET, W.C.
Pay F. Trenerry Esqr or Order
Two Hundred Pounds
£200—0—0
25 JAN 1913
M

will not unbalance him, but do him permanent good." He is Honorary Secretary to the Totton Working Men's Club and most popular with all its members, from whom he received quite an ovation on his success becoming known. His work on behalf of his fellows at the Club takes up most of his leisure, but his heart and soul are devoted to its interests and he gives his labour and time ungrudgingly. Our correspondent adds: "We are all proud of him as Secretary of our Club and proud that he has been so successful in your competition."

THE BELLES.

(A Poe-tical Parody.)

Hear the ladies in their cells,
Franchise Belles,
For grim determination their starvation it excels,
As they're fasting, fasting, fasting,
All the day and all the night,
Warders' patience scarcely lasting,
At them rude expressions casting,
With excusable delight;
But the ladies doing time,
For a silly sort of crime,
In their whitewashed, cold and cheerless little cells,
Prison cells,
To all offers of refreshment answer—yells.
Hear them calling from their cells,
Loud-voiced belles,
When the doctor them to swallow "skilly" he compels,
All the day and all the night
How they startle and affright;
Far too zealous just to speak,
They can only shriek and shriek
Out of tune
In a clamorous appealing for the vote,
With the tube for forceful feeding in their throat;
And their voices rising higher
In a desperate desire
And a resolute endeavour
To remain hungry now for ever,
And become like a pale-faced coon.
Silly belles,
All their efforts are no use,
With the cause they've played the deuce
With their yells
And their jangling and their wrangling in their cells.

J.

£5 a Week for Life. Final Entry Form on page 171.

GAINS 2 STONE 10 IN 40 DAYS.

Remarkable Results of the New Tissue Builder, Sargol in Many Cases of Run-Down Men and Women.

Prove it Yourself by Sending Coupon Below for a 2/6 Packet Free.

"My word! I never saw anything like the effects of that new treatment, Sargol, for the building up of weight and lost nerve force. It acted more like a miracle than a medicine," said a well-known gentleman yesterday, in speaking of the revolution that had taken place in his condition. "I began to think that there was nothing on earth that could make me fat. I tried tonics, digestives, heavy eating diet, milk, stout, and almost everything else you could think of, but without result.

THE START END OF SECOND MONTH

I had been thin for years, and began to think it was natural for me to be that way. Finally I read about the remarkable results brought about by the use of Sargol, so I decided to try it myself. Well, when I look at myself in the mirror now I think it is somebody else. I have put on just 2 stone 10 during the last month, and never felt stronger or more 'nervy' in my life."

Sargol is a powerful inducer of nutrition, increases cell growth, makes perfect assimilation of food, increases the number of blood corpuscles, and as a necessary result builds up muscles and solid, healthy flesh, and rounds out the figure.

For women who can never appear stylish in anything they wear because of their thinness, this remarkable treatment may prove a revelation. It is a beauty-maker as well as a form-maker and nerve-strengthener. Men increase their nerve-power as well as adding many pounds of good, healthy flesh.

It will cost you nothing to prove the remarkable effects of this treatment. It is absolutely non-injurious to the most delicate system. The Sargol Company will send to any one who sends name and address a free 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, with instructions, to prove that it does the work. They will also send you their book on "Why You Are Thin" free of charge, giving facts which will probably astonish you. Send coupon below to-day, with your name and address.

FREE SARGOL COUPON.

This coupon entitles any thin person to one 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, the concentrated Flesh Food (provided you have never tried it, and that 3d. is enclosed to cover postage, packing, and so forth). Read our advertisement printed above, then put 3d. in stamps in the letter to-day with this coupon, and the full 2s. 6d. package will be sent you by return of post. Address: THE SARGOL COMPANY (Dept. 1091), 124, Holborn, London, E.C.

Sargol is also sold and recommended by such high-class stores as Harrod's, Selfridge's, Wm. Whiteley's, Spiers and Pond's, Army and Navy Stores, Gamage Ltd., Boots' Cash Chemists, Taylors' Drug Stores, Lewis & Burrows, Hy. Hodder, and other reliable stores.

I CURED MY RUPTURE.

I Will Show You (FREE) How To Cure Yours.

For years I was helpless and bed-ridden from a double rupture. No truss could hold. Doctors said I would die if not operated on. I proved them wrong, and cured myself quickly by a simple means. I will send free by post a Test, together with full particulars of how I cured myself, to any ruptured person who writes for it at once.

It can cure, as hundreds have quickly cured themselves—in this simple way, privately and without stopping work or pleasures

Fill out the Coupon below and post to me to-day.

(FREE.) RUPTURE-CURE COUPON.

Capt. W. A. COLLINGS & SONS,
32 & 34, Theobald's Road, (Box 11T.), London, W.C.

Dear Sirs:—Please send me free of all cost, the Test and full Information of the Simple means for the quick Cure of my Rupture.

Name .....

Address .....

An excellent Owbridge's Lung Tonic Lozenge

Owbridge's Lung Tonic

The best known remedy for

COUGHS & COLDS

Invaluable to SPEAKERS, SINGERS and all who suffer from THROAT WEAKNESS.

CAUTION:
Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.,
Manufacturers, The Laboratory,
HULL.
Established 1874.

THE SUBSCRIPTION LIST WILL CLOSE ON OR BEFORE 29th JANUARY, 1913.

CITY OF BAHIA

(CAPITAL OF THE STATE OF BAHIA, BRAZIL).

£1,600,000

5%

LOAN OF 1912.

ISSUE PRICE:—

£94 : 10s. %

Interest will be paid FREE OF INCOME TAX UP TO 1S. 2D. IN THE £.

YIELD:—Approximately £5 : 12 : 5 per cent. taking into account the payment of Income Tax.

MARTIN'S BANK, Limited, 68, Lombard Street, London, E.C., and

Messrs. FREDK. J. BENSON & Co., 11 & 12, Blomfield Street, London, E.C.,

are receiving applications for the Bonds of the above £1,600,000 Loan in terms of the Prospectus dated 23rd January, 1913.

Prospectuses and Application Forms may be obtained from:—

The receiving Bankers, and also from the Brokers:—

Messrs. CAZENOVE & AKROYDS, 52, Threadneedle Street, London, E.C.;

or on receipt of a TELEGRAM addressed to "FREBENCATE, LONDON."

THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

I desire to apply for .... Bonds. Please forward Prospectus and Application Form.

Name .....

Address .....

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Isn't Turkey a well "plucked" 'un?

Is the Insurance Act *making* people sick?

Does "The Headmaster" teach us a lesson?

Isn't Gaby's latest "glide" rather a come-down?

Is there no penalty for "robbing a church" in Wales?

Would you like to pay more Income Tax? See page 171.

Isn't the Premier determined to make the most of his time?

Wouldn't some panel doctors rather "proscribe" than "prescribe"?

Failing the vote, will the Suffragettes organise another wild "slam-pane"?

Does the Bishop of Hereford know that marriage is the greatest of all gambles?

* * *

Merely Rumours:—

That the Lords will pay the Home Rule Bill with a Draft.

That the Cup Ties are very "knotty" and "spotty" this season.

That to satisfy the craze for clean milk many dealers are washing it.

That one of the coalless *Dreadnoughts* will be called *The Stormy Petrol.*

That most of the National Telephone shareholders got the wrong number.

* * *

Book-Title Wellerisms:—

"We Two"—as the nurse announced to the anxious husband.

"The Eternal City"—as the clerk said on his way home at 10 p.m.

"Vanity Fair"—as the lady said as she entered the beauty establishment.

"Bleak House"—as the newly-married couple said in their jerry-built villa.

"Adam Bede"—as the native said when the missionary presented his gift.

"The Mighty Atom"—as the diner said when a particle of cheese became animated.

"The Light That Failed"—as the man said when his only match was extinguished.

"A Pair of Blue Eyes"—as the young man said when her father asked for an explanation.

"Night and Morning"—as the doctor said as he handed the Lilliputian hat-box to the patient.

* * *

More Rapid Reviews:—

The Sheep Stealers.—Bah!

Concert Pitch—We found it flat.

The Honey Star.—Cloying, to our taste.

Fanny's First Novel.—And last, we trust.

The Armchair at the Inn.—A restful work.

The Finger of Mr. Blee.—Tickled us immensely.

The Stranger in the House.—Very well turned out.

The Mouse Trap.—All we have to say to the author is—Cheese it!

* * *

It is stated that the Suffragettes have something up their sleeves. Can it be arms?

* * *

London has a "twopenny poetry shop," we read. And any number of twopenny poets

* * *

It is stated that there are 211,000,000 farthings in circulation. Yet some men don't possess one.

* * *

The question of "Should Bishops Smoke?" is raised. They are fuming a good bit just now.

* * *

Portsmouth, it appears, requires six new churches. What a dread-naughty place it must be.

* * *

A Harvard professor has isolated the whooping-cough germ. Pooh! even a child can catch it.

* * *

The aluminium hat may be all right, but few women want a thing that cannot be worn out.

* * *

Now that a *policeman* has been run over and killed by a motor-'bus, something will be done.

* * *

A lady doctor advocates the reading of novelettes. Well, it's a good way to make folk sick.

* * *

Sir Edward Clarke thinks women are less educated than men. But some of them know too much.

* * *

If the papers which tell people how to live on so much per week would explain how to get the "so much," it would be more to the purpose.

"New Plays Wanted," reads a headline. That's true.

* * *

"Zoo without Bars," we read. But there'll be snakes all the same.

* * *

"Eagle in a Schoolroom," we read. No doubt most of the scholars thought it a lark.

* * *

A lad nine years old has been appointed organist to a church. The usual age for top cords.

* * *

"Do women shoot better than men?" asks a contemporary. They are about equal in *our* gallery.

* * *

"He was drunk with a Browning pistol," said a constable. Did the prisoner empty the barrel?

* * *

A Liverpool woman recently gave birth to quadruplets. Who says the Insurance Act is no good?

* * *

The Bar has decided against women barristers. This is a shabby way to treat its best customers.

* * *

A monkey at an Australian Zoo is said to sing like a thrush Evidently a case of thrush in the throat.

* * *

Grahame-White says £1,000,000 should be spent upon flying. He seems anxious to make the money fly.

* * *

Over 40 people had their pockets picked at a recent political meeting. This usually comes afterwards.

* * *

The Bishop of London says he knows that gin is not the best thing for babies. Does he know what is?

* * *

"Swankey," we are informed, means "small beer" in the Essex dialect. Yes, and all the world over.

* * *

"A man who can be bought can be sold," says the Rev. Mr. Waldron. Yes, but he is more often given away.

* * *

"Fencing has become almost a lost art," says Edgar Seligman. It will never be that while there are Cabinet Ministers.

* * *

"The practice of giving little girls dolls to play with makes neurotic women," says a clergyman. New-rot-ic talk!

* * *

A road in Tasmania is paved with quartz yielding an ounce of pure gold to the ton. That's the right road to take.

* * *

Although "Trust the People" is the name of the new piece at the Garrick Theatre, we understand that no credit will be given.

* * *

The fact that cases of delirium tremens have been seen at five years old, shows the danger of bringing children up on the bottle.

* * *

The "tea face," defined as a "determinedly animated smile," is quite distinct from the "tee face," as every golfer knows.

* * *

"The buttonless dress may be a novelty, but the ditto shirt has always been with us," says a member of our staff. He is married.

* * *

An overdose of a sleeping draught caused a married woman to sleep for a week. Many husbands are enquiring for the name of the drug.

* * *

Another newspaper discussion: "Are Turkish baths too dear?" Well, the Turk has been in hot water lately, and has not found it cheap.

* * *

Mme. Melba says teachers of singing ought to find the gramophone a great aid in giving lessons. If the gramophone is next door, teachers of singing find it a hindrance.

* * *

The Canadian Parliament is to consider a Bill advocating the abolition of all titles. Our members of Parliament might also reflect whether they should not leave off calling each other names.

* * *

Experts say that there is really nothing new in latest fashions. All ladies' gowns are revivals of old styles, this season having seen specimens of Elizabethan and Grecian frocks. If it were not for our weather, the Garden of Eden costume would soon be the vogue.

* * *

Doctor's Son: "What is a post-mortem, father?"
Doctor: "Discovering the mistake in the diagnosis."

2,000 Additional Prizes for "Bullets" Competitors. See page 182.

YOUR LAST CHANCE!—Our FINAL Coupon.

£5 A WEEK FOR LIFE!

This is your LAST CHANCE of winning our Great Pension Prize. Our Final Entrance Form is printed below. Don't fail to fill it in NOW (you can send as many coupons as you like). Our £5 a week CAN be won and we want it to be. Read the rules carefully and note there are no restrictive conditions—our Offer is a Plain and STRAIGHT one.

A perpetual income of £5 a week, or £260 a year, or more than 14s. for every day of your life, will be awarded for a correct forecast of the LEAGUE MATCHES ACTUALLY PLAYED ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th, as given on the entrance form below.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

All you have to do is to draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw do not cross out either team.

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE!

In the First Round of the Cup Ties a very great number of games were abandoned or postponed.

In our Competition it does not matter how many games are abandoned. The great prize will be awarded to the competitor giving the correct results of the matches played to a finish, even though only ten or twelve be decided.

To the reader from whom we receive an entrance form containing the correct results of the matches played as given on our coupon, we will award the record prize of £5 a week for life.

Should it happen that no entrance form is received containing all the correct results,

£500

in Cash will be awarded IN ANY EVENT to the competitor whose entrance form shows most correct results.

This is purely a skill competition, and competitors are advised to study the football columns of the daily papers. Your football skill and a few strokes of the Pen can win you

£5 A WEEK FOR LIFE!

You can send in as many entries as you like. Any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends can send their entries together in one envelope, but EVERY coupon must be signed in ink by its respective sender.

SEND IN YOUR COUPONS NOW.

The checking of this competition will be a special feature. We have made elaborate arrangements whereby all risk of a winning coupon being overlooked, or the possibility of fraud, is totally eliminated.

Read These Rules Carefully.

1. On the Entrance Form attached, cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," Football Competitions Department, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, February 7th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The Pension Prize of £5 a week for Life will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results of all the matches played on February 8th, as published in the *Sporting Life*.

4. In the event of no Entrance Form containing all correct results, five hundred pounds (£500) will be awarded to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the largest number of accurate forecasts.

5. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received. Individual competitors may send in as many entries as they wish, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends may send their entries together in one envelope.

6. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

7. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut not torn out.

8. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the Pension Prize of £5 a week for Life or the Contingent Prize of £500 will be equally divided.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7th.

FOR ONLY 20 FOOTBALL FORECASTS

NO ENTRANCE FEES.

No Goals Required.

You can send in as many coupons as you like.

"JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

Matches Played Saturday, February 8th.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Blackburn Rovers	v.	Manchester United.
Bradford City	v.	Newcastle.
Sheffield Wednesday	v.	Aston Villa.
Tottenham Hotspur	v.	Middlesbrough.
West Bromwich A.	v.	Bolton W.
Woolwich Arsenal	v.	Oldham.
Birmingham	v.	Preston N.E.
Blackpool	v.	Clapton Orient.
Fulham	v.	Barnsley.
Grimsby	v.	Wolverhampton W.
Leeds City	v.	Leicester Fosse.
Notts Forest	v.	Hull City.
Gillingham	v.	Bristol Rovers.
Crystal Palace	v.	Brighton.
Merthyr Town	v.	Coventry.
Northampton	v.	Millwall.
Norwich City	v.	Swindon.
Plymouth Argyle	v.	West Ham.
Southampton	v.	Exeter City.
Stoke	v.	Watford.

I enter JOHN BULL Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

After you have filled up your entries for this competition turn to page 182, where you will fin particulars of "Bull ts," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £350 in cash is awarded this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other prizes to the value of £1.655.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate, until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 180.
For Sporting Replies, see page 184.

A. C. W. (New Barnet).—We shall keep our eyes on W. J. Hamilton, of 85, Lancaster Road, W., and his "Magazine Club with Cinema Show . . . a scheme to boom the circulation of certain well-known magazines and periodicals."

H. T. (Manchester).—Surely the inhabitants of Old Trafford and Stretford can bring pressure on the Corporation to improve their tram service. Otherwise we shall begin to doubt the boasted determination and persistence of the "Manchester man."

H. K. (Bootle) asks if it is true that the Bow and Bromley bye-election was brought about by the "living picture people" making Mr. Lansbury an offer. That is an absurd suggestion. Whatever his politics, George Lansbury is an honest man—or he would be sitting in the House of Commons to-day.

W. E. S. (Cape Town).—We note that General Beyers, of the Volunteer Forces of South Africa, has expressed the opinion that South Africa belongs to the Dutch, and that in all his remarks he is decidedly anti-British. We repeat, there is trouble brewing in South Africa.

"PATERFAMILIAS" (Hunts) apropos of the "Hooded" M.P., suggests that, should anyone enter an action against us, "every reader of JOHN BULL should send a shilling to meet the law expenses, and if that is not enough, should repeat the subscription." But we do our own law!

"XENAPHONE" asks: "Why all this fuss about the name of the "Hooded" M.P., when everyone knows it?" But what "everyone knows" is usually wrong.

R. E. (East Cowes).—We cannot tell you more at the moment than that our circulation is several times that of any other serious weekly journal, and that it looks like touching the million mark before long. *Mrs. Bull* is also jogging along very comfortably.

"BE FAIR" (Cheltenham).—The insertion of such a paragraph as you suggest would in itself constitute a libel.

J. L. G. (Preston).—Your account of what was found under the emergency bed at the Brighton fire station is not one we can print.

F. J. A. (Ivybridge), writing with reference to our recent article "Crockery and Promises," says he had a similar experience with a Hanley firm of manufacturers. What a lot of complaints we get about the glass and china trade!

G. (Camden Square).—If the police interfere with you when you are exercising your dogs again in a legitimate way, do not argue with them. Make a complaint at the local police station—or tell the dogs to "fetch him."

F. S. (N.S. Wales).—You know for a fact that couples can get situations on farms or cattle stations at from £80 to £120 a year. Even so, that is not a fat living, is it, leaving your high prices out of account? However, the next couple who want a job of the kind we will send along to you.

"LITTLE BOY" (Essex) wants to know if we can give him any information about I. A. Hardy and Co., otherwise the United Kingdom, Colonial and Foreign General Accountancy Office, of Chancery Lane. Yes, they are wrong 'uns, whom we have often exposed.

D. T. L. (Moseley) suggests that, with a view to preventing people from going abroad for the purpose of evading payment of their debts, all persons taking up their residence out of the United Kingdom should be required to make a statutory declaration bearing on the subject. What a lot of false swearing there would be!

X. Y. Z. (Staines).—It is parsons of the type of the Vicar of Staines, who publishes in the parish magazine that "from the number of banns published, the vicar fears our people have not yet learned that from Advent till after the Epiphany is a time that marriages ought not to be solemnised," who have whittled away the Church's influence in the world.

F. J. W. (Chertsey).—"K.C., care of C. Knight & Co., 227-239, Tooley Street, S.E.," certainly wants a lot for the money if he is the "London Clerk to the Guardians" who expects a well educated clerk, good and accurate writer, with a sound knowledge of statistical and tabular work, for 17s. 6d. a week.

"GADSBY" (Clerkenwell).—Have you heard that famous expression, "Put your nose in crape, for your brains are dead"?

MRS. S. (Fulham).—We have repeatedly exposed W. F. Slade & Co., of 36, Furnival Street, Holborn, who are in the "bonus tea" line of business.

J. H. B. (Kentish Town) complains that Councillor the Rev. J. H. Harley, of St. Pancras, receives a salary of £80 per annum, with a meat tea meal, as Chaplain of Religious Instruction for Protestant-Nonconformist Inmates of the King's Road Workhouse, and as he is a Borough Councillor he is directly or indirectly concerned in voting his remuneration. We do not know whether our correspondent considers too high the salary, or the meat tea, or both.

W. J. W. (Southampton) states that he is a "wireless-operator," who eighteen months ago resigned his post in the Marconi Co. to try his luck in South Africa. Illness and financial worries compelled him to return to England, and he applied to be taken on again by the Marconi Co. He was informed by the Traffic Manager that "the Company do not re-engage men who have either been dismissed or have resigned." This appears to be one of the wrongs that arises from what is virtually a monopoly.

W. N. (Leeds) wants us to warn the public against the catch-penny advertisements of the Waterman Speciality Co., of 16, St. James' Street, S.W. But, goodness gracious! we are continually doing so.

L. B. (Ware) tells us that he also has been a victim to the Stramonium Herbal Cigarette trick. These cigarettes, exploited by different persons posing as the manufacturers, appear to be the chosen medium of a very big gang of swindlers using many different names and addresses, and it is high time that the police exerted themselves and put a stop to the fraud.

R. J. N. (Chester) would like to know whether the Rev. Mr. King, a minister at St. Luke's Church, Weaste, Salford, considers directing a debate on a Sunday morning on "Women Suffrage" is "an exemplary way of reverencing the Sabbath Day and keeping it holy." Peradventure, our rev. friend will let R. J. N. know what he would like to know.

C. A. H. (Manchester).—Will refer to the matter in an early issue of *Mrs. Bull*.

"LONDON READER" says he is not an out-and-out bad lot, and wants to get on to the straight path again, but cannot do so because he has no insurance card. Why not become a voluntary contributor through the Post Office?

E. T. (Lincoln) tells us he was imprisoned for debt, and was given hard labour, including carrying and stacking sleepers, loading coal and coke, picking cotton, etc. Anyhow, he has at least the satisfaction of knowing that he has thereby redeemed his debt.

G. O. P. (London) calls attention to the chaotic arrangements in connection with the ladies' lavatory accommodation in the Parliament Street subway. There is, he says, no proper indication of the whereabouts of either the subway or the lavatories, and at present the result is that "no refined woman can use the place from the north side, and has to be in desperate straits to use the southern entrance, because owing to the absolute closing of the north entrance to her sex, either from ignorance of its existence or lack of nerve to risk it, the stream of pedestrians ascending the 'Ladies' Lavatory' staircase is exclusively "male.'" Perhaps the Westminster Corporation will look into the matter.

Your Last Chance to Win our £5 a Week for Life.

E. C. (Forest Gate) complains that he has had a wreath stolen from a grave in Abney Park Cemetery. He hints that if he should be anywhere near when they next try it on, the ghoulish thieves will have to be pretty *quick* to rob the *dead*.

A. K. (Dumbarton) sends us a notice circulated amongst their patrons by the Dumbartonshire Laundry Co., Ltd., in which they express their regret that, owing to the Insurance Act, they are compelled to raise some of their prices. Lloyd George may now pride himself on the fact that he has made it an advantage to be dirty in Dumbartonshire.

J. H. H. (Birmingham).—We note you are opposed to the annexation of Handsworth in the formation of Bigger Birmingham, and that the local newspapers refuse to publish your letters on the subject of the recent Municipal elections. Touching the first, we are helpless; and as regards the last, you might offer to pay advertisement rates for the insertion of your letters. We know quite a lot of people who can obtain publication only that way.

J. R. (Pimlico) assures us that old copies of JOHN BULL are excellent for laying down under carpets and linoleum. Whether put to that purpose or not, JOHN BULL always improves its readers' understanding.

J. M. (London) tells us he knows of a house of ill-fame in the East End containing 50 or 60 victims of the White Slave trade, and which is within a few yards of a police station. This, however, was before the latest Act came into force. Perhaps he will let us know how things are now.

"AN ENGLISHMAN AND PROUD OF IT" (Alberta) encloses an advertisement cut from the *Calgary Daily Herald*:—"Respectable Young Lady would like to meet respectable young business gentleman; no English or foreigner need apply.—Apply Box 497, *Herald*." No respectable young English business gentleman *would* apply.

T. R. (Maida Vale) is a cabman, and says he was going into a public-house to have a drink, after getting a boy to hold the horse's head, when two policemen took him to the station for being drunk. He asserts that all he had had all day were two glasses of ale. We cannot understand it. In fact, it Knox us.

J. M. T. (Colne), who assures us he was neither legally, morally, nor physically drunk when writing, sends us the following:—

LLOYD'S LATEST.

Oh Gentle Wizard of the West
Success Attend you—well,
The Dual Vote, and Every Home
Will Soon outrival L.

Now we are wondering what he *was* suffering from.

E. A (Leytonstone).—If you think you can borrow from a moneylender on "note of hand alone," repayable by instalments of one shilling weekly, you are mistaken.

"ONLY A CLINKER" vouches for the truth of our statements that the Board of Trade certifies as fit for sea, tramp steamers that are death-traps to all who man them. He hopes for a Business Government with "dear Bottomley" at Whitehall. We duly blush!

"FISHY" (Perthshire).—We know nothing about L. Spencer Wallis, "Psychological Tutor and Consultant," of 31, Maiden Lane, London, W.C., who is anxious to send you "a full character study" for one shilling. But we notice that in the letter he sent you he states that his "claims are not mere vain glourious boastings." If his "readings" are no better than his spelling they are not up to much.

S. T. (Harringay, N.), referring to our recent remark anent a certain slip of paper and its whereabouts, says, "Oh, John! what *would* Mary say?" All we know is what Mary *did* say. We have promised to be good.

"FAIR PLAY" wants to know whether it is true that the L.B. & S.C.R. Co. require their outside porters to clean up Victoria Station, and do not pay them one penny for the job. We do not know. But we presume the outside porter knows what will be the conditions of his employment before he is taken on.

"A SUFFERER" (Chiswick) is disappointed with an ostrich plume she was recently induced to buy through an advertisement. "I think," she says, "2s. 6d. we sent and nothing of the kind—not a plume at all." We can understand her feeling ruffled, but what could she expect for the money? We never pay less than 3s. for *our* ostrich plumes.

H. E. J. (Bruce Grove) thinks we should present one of our "Biscuits" to the *Church Monthly*, for printing the following under the heading, "Advice to Mothers":—"Keep them *warm* with woollen or flannel underclothing, and take them out whenever fine. . . . Wash them all over at least once a day with soap and warm water." Very good advice, too. Thousands of mothers would benefit from such treatment.

"PUZZLED" (London).—The "reason why all these big sweepstakes have to be worked from abroad, with the result that foreign countries reap the benefit," is that we have not yet got a Business Government.

A. H. M. (Chelsea).—We cannot express a definite opinion as to the value of the tuition given by the International Correspondence Schools, but the terms of their contracts appear somewhat arbitrary.

"ALFRED" (Wisbech).—Take a little more water with it next time.

E. A. D. (Palmer's Green) suggests that the yellow press are making the supposed danger to St. Paul's Cathedral. A bit vague!

"MERCURY" (London) directs our attention to a very flattering reference to ourselves and to our recent appreciation of Mr. Plowden, in the *Marylebone Mercury*—and also, personally, says all sorts of nice things about us.

B. S. K. (Huddersfield), on the contrary, directs our attention to the wholesale quotation—without any acknowledgment—by the *Yorkshire Evening Post*, of the paragraph which originally appeared in our columns—and which has found its way into many other journals—respecting the remarkable figures given to the Emperor of Germany some years ago by a prophetess—and leading up to the suggestion that 1913 is to be "the year."

S. G. H. (Plumstead) bought a fountain pen for 5s., and says its gold-plated nib is of brass. We fear he has been the victim of the gentleman lately seen in the city, wearing a green baize apron, who offers to sell a fountain pen he has "just discovered in some offices he is clearing out."

M. F. (Exeter).—The exact phrase is *On revient toujours à ses premiers amours*—and it is very true.

H. G. P. (Nottingham).—We have seen hundreds of the Yankee Captain Rands' effusions and consigned them to our W.P.B.

"BULLITE" (Manchester).—Our Editor's birthday is March 23rd; but he will be in Manchester before then. *Verb sap.*

J. B. (Vincennes).—Our own opinion is that the average Turk is as good, if not a better, Christian than the average Serb. Remember Belgrade, and after.

A. R. K. (Hanwell).—How these religionists do love one another. Did the incident about which you write occur outside the asylum?

P. M. says there are "many people living in West Street, who would like to hear us speak on a Business Government." Where *is* West Street?

H. H. B. (Leven).—Thanks for your good wishes, and as you urge us to do so, we will keep pegging away.

"SICK OF IT."—Do not emigrate to W. Africa unless you have a situation waiting for you, and, above all, put not your trust in immigration firms.

J. G. (Homerton).—If you took one hundred pounds in gold to the bank in order to change it into silver, and came out with less than the amount you went in with, we should think you were not the right sort of person to be entrusted with so much money. Or was the loss due to the rate of "exchange"?

A. G. A. (London, S.W.) is an Italian, who finds it very difficult to obtain a situation as clerk in a London office. If he had not married some poor trusting English girl, we should be inclined to say we are very glad to hear it. Whilst so many efficient English clerks are vainly walking the streets of London in search of employment, why should room be made for foreigners?

W. S. (Battersea).—We hesitate to advise you to pay a fee of two guineas to learn bioscope operating from any of the so-called schools. The profession is already over-crowded.

"HEADLINES" says that he sent us a brief "for insertion to print." He must address the document to a member of the learned profession—and not forget the retainer.

"WORRIED."—Your sister should exercise great care before going to Buenos Aires, notwithstanding the fact that an offer of marriage has been made to her.

H. S. T. (Southfields).—Why didn't you put your name and address in the parcel of clothes you returned to your tailors? Then it would not have gone astray.

E. M. (Cheadle) complains of the methods of the Cheshire police, but we cannot pillory the officers he mentions without further information.

K. M. (Wymondham).—Have nothing to do with firms advertising for missing relatives and requiring a preliminary fee for "expenses."

T. F. (Walthamstow).—We agree that the extent to which many of the suburban trains are overcrowded is scandalous, and likely at any time to turn what otherwise might be a trivial mishap into an appalling disaster. But so long as passengers permit themselves to be packed like sardines in a narrow compartment, we can do nothing more than utter a solemn warning to the railway companies. When an accident occurs, the consequences will be ghastly.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

Increased Again! "Bullets" Prizes, value £1,655 This Week.

MR. REDMOND'S LITTLE AFFAIR;

OR, HARMONY IN THE HARCOURT ROOM.

By RICHARD MORTON.

"To celebrate the third reading of the Home Rule Bill Mr. John Redmond entertained Mr. Birrell and the members of the Irish party at dinner in the Harcourt Room of the House of Commons. The gathering was entirely private and social in character. The Press were not present. No toasts were proposed. Several songs were sung by members of the company."

So runs the official account of a very interesting function. We are able to furnish details of some of the songs and their singers—our Reporter having been under the table.

MR. JOHN REDMOND himself opened the harmony with his new version of a favourite old ditty :—

Air : "The Wearin' of the Green."

Say, patriots, have you heard the news?
The Bill is through, somehow;
A lot of it's been guillotined,
The Lords have got it now.
It is up to them to do their worst,
The Bill will cause them pain,
And if so be they throw it out,
We'll send it up again.
Oh, I heard the voice of Ulster,
But it wasn't very clear,
So I thought I'd take no notice,
And I gave it a deaf ear;
And I've heard the curse of Carson,
But just now I'm full within,
And all we Irish patriots are
A-wearin' of the grin!

MR. BIRRELL'S name was next on the programme, and his contribution to the entertainment was a neat little item with the literary flavour :—

Air : "Sigh no more, Ladies."

Sigh no more, Mollies, sigh no more,
We were deceivers never;
Our true intent was your delight,
To one thing constant ever.
Sigh no more, Mollies, sigh no more,
Accept our tribute, we implore.

MR. DEVLIN gave a characteristic ditty modelled on a famous song from an old burlesque at the Strand Theatre :—

Air : "Up, up, up! and Down, down, down!"

The Bill has gone up, up, up!
In spite of all Tories in town;
They found their own level,
And went to the d—l,
And now they are all cast down,
Down, down!
Yes, now they are all cast down!

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR selected a number that was truly and purely Irish in tone and sentiment. His racy rendering of the song and his fearless pronunciation of the words in the national language were most successful :—

Air : "The Cruiskeen Lawn."

Methinks it now appears,
After many weary years,
The Bill has passed and brighter days will dawn,
And much pleasure it affords,
For we know it's reached the Lords,
So we'll have another Cruiskeen Lawn!

REFRAIN :—

Gramachree, ma cruiskeen,
Wait and see, mavourneen,
Gramachree, ma cruiskeen,
Lawn, lawn, lawn!
Have a smiling little Cruiskeen Lawn!

MR. WILLIAM O'BRIEN sang :—

Air : "I wish I was with Nancy."

I wish there were no prisons!
I do, I does!
I would not wear their trousers there,
I said I'd have my own old pair,
In the jug! what a mug!
I wish there were no prisons!

An Irish member, who had dined well and whose name could not be ascertained, proposed "Rule, Britannia," as a closing chorus. Nobody seconded the proposition, and the party separated in some disorder.

FITS CAN BE CURED.

Permanent Recovery Possible.

GREAT FREE OFFER.

There is no infirmity so distressing, either to the sufferer or to those around him, as epilepsy and those kindred nervous complaints which, recurring more violently and unexpectedly at shortening intervals, render the life of the sufferer one round of misery.

It has long been supposed that fits were not curable, and many an unfortunate sufferer has spent large sums in search of the alleviation that ordinary remedies, however expensively priced, can never bring.

It was left for Dr. S. B. Niblett to, at last, discover the remedy that would not only bring alleviation, but, by building up the patient's vital forces, finally render him immune from the dread scourge. Dr. Niblett gave thirty-five years' close study to epilepsy and fits—devoted a lifetime to the alleviation of these terrible complaints. His remedy, which he called "Vital Renewer," has brought back—during the last few years—health and strength to thousands, and it is with the object of making it more widely known that we, to-day, make a remarkable offer of a free bottle to anyone who is afflicted with epilepsy, or has a friend who suffers from this dread disease.

May we put it to you to take advantage of this offer, now—to learn, once and for all, that there is a way by which you can be quickly and permanently cured—a treatment medically endorsed and vouched for by hundreds of patients thoroughly cured?

Nor is Dr. Niblett's treatment other than pleasant, its simplicity and the ease with which it may be carried out being marked features.

Write now for free bottle and treatment books, all sent free on application to anyone sending six penny stamps to cover cost of packing and postage.

Write TO-DAY to :—

C. P. Niblett, 34, Burwood House, Burwood Place, Hyde Park, London, W.—(Advt.)

If mustard pots were padlocked

there would be some excuse for not obtaining Nature's aid to appetite—Colman's Mustard. But mustard is always waiting to add enjoyment to the meal.

Colman's D.S.R Mustard

Don't leave it in the mustard pot—use it

MORPHINE HABIT

Laudanum, Opium, Chlorodyne or other Drug Habit Cured.

THE SAINT GEORGE ASSOCIATION,

of 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C., will send free, in strict confidence, a 4 days' trial of their home treatment to prove its efficacy. Specially prescribed for each case by Association's Physician. No restrictions required, the medicine giving **ABSOLUTE** support. 21,000 cases treated with practically universal success. Medical practitioners' difficult cases solicited. Address Room 21.

MOTOR OWNERS' PETROL COMBINE,

LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.)

SHARE CAPITAL - £890,000

DIVIDED INTO

250,000 Cumulative 8 PER CENT. PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES of £1 EACH.
600,000 ORDINARY SHARES OF £1 EACH.
800,000 DEFERRED SHARES OF 1s. EACH.

6 PER CENT. (Convertible) FIRST DEBENTURES - £250,000.

To be issued in Debentures of £100 and £20 each, convertible into fully-paid Ordinary Shares at par on or before December 31st, 1914, at the option of the Debenture-holder. Interest payable half-yearly commencing on July 1st, 1913, and thereafter on January 1st and July 1st in each year.

Debentures not exchanged for shares will be redeemable at 5 per cent. premium, **by regular drawings,** the Company agreeing to set aside a sum of **£11,000 every 6 months** as from January 1st, 1915, for payment of Interest and redeeming the Debentures. The first of such drawings to be made on July 1st, 1915, and thereafter at the end of each half-year until all the Debentures have been extinguished, but the Company may redeem the Debentures at the said premium at any earlier date bygiving 6 months' notice.

ALL THE DEBENTURES AND SHARES (except 350,000 Ordinary Shares which are reserved for Debenture conversions and future issue and 400,000 Deferred Shares), **will be offered for subscription at par,** on the terms of the full Prospectus, dated January 24th, 1913, payable as follows:—

On Application	**1s. per Share.**	**For Debentures 10 per cent.**
On Allotment	**4s.** „ „	„ **15** „
One month after Allotment	**5s.** „ „	„ **25** „
Two months after Allotment	**5s.** „ „	„ **25** „
Three months after Allotment	**5s.** „ „	„ **25** „

Interest at 5 per cent. per annum will be allowed if paid in full in advance. The Deferred Shares are payable in full on application.

THE ORDINARY SHARES will be entitled to **10 per cent. dividends per annum** in priority to the Deferred Shares and **in addition** thereto, a further **10 per cent. share** of all Surplus Profits as and when distributed. **THE PREFERENCE SHARES** will be entitled to 5 per cent. of all such Surplus Profits **in addition** to their 8 per cent. Cumulative Dividend. The Preference have priority over Ordinary and Deferred Shares in respect of capital and Ordinary over Deferred Shares, any surplus assets being divisible as to one-fourth part thereof to the Ordinary Shareholders and the balance to the Deferred Shareholders. The rights attached to the several classes of shares may be modified in accordance with clause 70 of the Articles.

All Applicants will be entitled to an allotment at par, of **15, 25 or 40 Deferred Shares of 1s. each, for every £100 of** Debentures, Preference or Ordinary Shares respectively may be allotted to them, subject to due payment of the above Calls. They will thus become entitled to receive **a substantial share of the Surplus Profits in addition** to the specified interest or dividends on their invested capital. It is proposed also that holders of not less than £50 shall be paid out of the surplus profits, **a bonus on their purchases,** thus affording them some protection against increases in the price of petrol, while leaving this Company free to take full advantage of such increases—on its sales to non-investing consumers—for the further benefit of its own Shareholders.

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. THE EARL OF CARRICK, Hurlingham Court, S.W., Chairman (Director of Emba Caspian Oil Company, Ltd., and Russian General Oil Corporation Ltd.).

The LORD ARTHUR CECIL, The Mount, Brockenhurst, Hants (Chairman of British-Austrian Oil Investment Co., Ltd., and Director of the Anglo-Continental Supply Co., Ltd.).

Lieut.-Colonel FRANCIS J. PAUL BUTLER, J.P., 3, Buckingham Palace Gardens, London, S.W. (Director of Holophane, Ltd.).

CHARLES T. PART, J.P., D.L., The Pré, St. Albans (Director of Colne Valley Water Company, Limited, and Bestwood Coal and Iron Company, Limited.).

CHARLES JARROTT, Governing Director of Jarrott, Ltd., Sackville Street, Piccadilly, London, W.

A. E. HODGSON, 170, Piccadilly, London, W. (Director of British-Austrian Oil Investment Co., Ltd., Member of the Managing Committee of Galician Crude Oil Producers' Union).

BANKERS.

LONDON COUNTY & WESTMINSTER BANK, LTD., Head Office, 41, Lothbury; 21, Lombard St. and all Branches. | LLOYDS BANK, LTD., St. James's Street, London, S.W. Head Office, Lombard Street, and all Branches.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LTD., 62, Lombard Street, London, E.C.; Head Office, Edinburgh, and Branches in Scotland.

SOLICITORS.

For the Company—BIRCHAM & Co., 46, Parliament Street, Westminster, S.W., and 50, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.
For the Vendors—SEATLE & MORRISON, 47, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

AUDITORS.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & Co., Chartered Accountants, 3, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, London, E.C.

BROKERS.

PAUL E. SCHWEDER & Co., 9, Drapers Gardens, London, E.C., and Stock Exchange.

Secretary and Registered Offices (pro tem.).

H. BLONDELL, 170-173, Piccadilly, London, W.

The Company has been formed to enable motorists to secure **for themselves some of the enormous profits** which are now being made by the groups controlling the existing supplies, and it is anticipated that this Company will have the very strong support of the majority of motor users in the United Kingdom, who at the present time are threatened with the probability of the price of petrol being considerably increased.

It will be the Company's policy to benefit motorists who come into the scheme, and as a result, to divert into the pockets of those who join it, some of the huge profits which now go elsewhere, **without reducing the margin to local traders for retailing its products.**

Complete Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors, and at the registered offices of the Company, or will be sent on receipt of Telegram addressed "LORTEPWELL, LONDON."

The List opens Friday, Jan. 31st, and closes at noon Monday, Feb. 3rd, for both Town and Country.

John Bull League Notes.

BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

BIRMINGHAM.—To-day (Thursday) all roads lead to the Town Hall. I am being simply overwhelmed with applications for tickets—by callers, telegrams, telephone and letters. But the supply of reserved seats is quite exhausted. We *must* keep accommodation for the general public, and I would remind readers that a copy of this week's issue will admit to the hall at 7.30. There will be plenty of entertainment to while away the half-hour before the President arrives—organ recitals, League Songs, etc. And you can get a copy of his autobiographical book—"Bottomley's Book"—at the stall in the vestibule; if *that* does not interest you, nothing will. After the meeting Mr. Bottomley will entertain the Local Committee at supper.

ABERDEEN.—The Local Committee have already taken in hand matters relating to the proposed visit of the President to the Granite City on April 4th next. The Local Secretaryship is in the able hands of Mr. A. T. Fairweather, of 43, Wallfield Crescent, who will be glad if all members will send him their present addresses in order to bring the register up to date. An interesting communication reaches me from an enthusiastic Aberdeen member. Recently I supplied him with a few copies of the President's Speeches and application forms for League membership. He has been leaving a copy of each of the speeches at various houses, after obtaining a promise that they will be read, saying he will call for them on the following evening. I am looking for workers like him in every town.

MANCHESTER.—Mr. F. Wardle (5, Woodland Road, Gorton), tells me he still requires a good number of Stewards to assist at the meeting on the 14th. I shall arrive in the city on the 8th, and shall be at the Grosvenor Hotel, where I shall be happy to meet any of our members.

GLASGOW.—From our Local Secretary I gather that Stewards are sending in their names and that the supply of tickets is becoming exhausted. Applications should be made to Mr. Hugh McCone, of 1222, Springburn Road, who will be pleased to supply tickets upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

PLYMOUTH.—Mr. A. E. Hutchings, of 20, Albert Road, North Road, is about to call the Annual General Meeting of the local Branch, and will be glad if all those who have changed their addresses during the last twelve months will communicate with him. Next week I hope to give the date of the President's visit. In the meantime, will the local members bear in mind that another Whist Drive and Smoking Concert is being arranged?

LEAGUE REPORT.

I shall be glad to hear from any member who may not have received a copy of the League Report.

What is your Number?

Our New Weekly Ballot for 50 Helpers at Two Guineas Apiece

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following claims have been received in respect of our issue of January 11th:—

WILLIAM HALL, Esq., 43, Lister St., Hull. January 11th. No. 205049.

W. H. CHATTIN, Esq., Ormskirk, Cosmeston St., Cardiff. January 11th. No. 141,001.

F. H. BIRKETT, Esq., Danford Lane, Blossomfield, Solihull. January 11th. No. 113227.

F. T. BETTS, Esq., 54, Dudley Port, Tipton. January 11th No. 434947.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of January 25th:—

3119	191851	355518	552096	710302
7625	196187	383184	577850	716056
46150	210405	408848	591851	727140
52809	222828	436817	597395	735151
60183	241610	449726	612131	738375
105251	253543	458708	625731	786210
115531	271992	497395	656875	821319
127887	305068	510538	686526	836412
150994	329991	528885	696051	839445
157871	349027	534855	702610	840311

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED JANUARY 29TH).

STRENGTH.

VITALITY.

BRAIN FORCE—

Albert E. Smythe (Sandow's Model Pupil) writes: "When I got to India (on my world tour with Sandow as 'Model Pupil') I kept myself in the pink of condition with the aid of Phosferine, which I found indispensable in combating slackness and flabbiness, and a wonderful help in developing will power and nerve force. *It is entirely due to Phosferine* I escaped the fatigue, overstrain, nervous despondency, feverish chills, unavoidable in such a climate."

No other medicine has received such absolute proof of its extraordinary properties in restoring Shattered Constitutions, and in giving back to the prematurely aged New Life and Energy.

CAUTION

There is only one Phosferine—beware of illegal imitations—do not be misled by PHOSPH THIS or PHOSPH THAT, but get

PHOSFERINE

THE REMEDY OF KINGS.

Supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia
H.M. the King of Spain

H.M. the King of Greece
H.M. the Queen of Roumania
H.M. the Queen of Spain, etc.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

THE LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1836.

Subscribed Capital	- -	£19,148,340	0 0
Paid-up Capital	- - -	£3,989,237	10 0
Reserve Fund	- - - -	£3,390,313	15 0

DIRECTORS—

Sir EDWARD H. HOLDEN, Bart., Chairman and Managing Director.
WILLIAM GRAHAM BRADSHAW, Esq., London Deputy-Chairman.

The Right Hon. LORD AIREDALE, Leeds; Sir PERCY ELLY BATES, Bart., Liverpool; ROBERT CLOVER BEAZLEY, Esq., Liverpool; SIR WILLIAM BENJAMIN BOWRING, Bart., Liverpool; JOHN ALEXANDER CHRISTIE, Esq., London; DAVID DAVIES, Esq., M.P., Llandinam; FRANK DUDLEY DOCKER, Esq., C.B., Birmingham; FREDERICK HYNDE FOX, Esq., Liverpool; H. SIMPSON GEE, Esq., Leicester; JOHN HOWARD GWYTHER, Esq., London; ARTHUR T. KEEN, Esq., Birmingham; The Right Hon. LORD PIRRIE, K.P., London; The Right Hon. LORD ROTHERHAM, Manchester; THOMAS ROYDEN, Esq., Liverpool; WILLIAM FITZTHOMAS WYLEY, Esq., Coventry.

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Joint General Managers: J. M. MADDERS, S. B. MURRAY, F. HYDE.
Secretary: E. J. MORRIS.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31st December, 1912.

	£	s.	d.
To Capital Paid up, viz.:—£12 10s. 0d. per Share on 319,139 Shares of £60 each	3,989,237	10	0
,, Reserve Fund	3,390,313	15	0
,, Dividend payable on 1st February, 1913	359,031	7	6
,, Balance of Profit and Loss Account	132,992	18	8
	7,871,575	11	2
,, Current Deposit and other Accounts	83,664,326	19	3
,, Acceptances on account of Customers	6,741,031	14	5
	£98,276,934	4	10

	£	s.	d.
By Cash and Bullion in hand and Cash at Bank of England	13,877,239	15	9
,, Money at Call and at Short Notice	10,412,538	18	10
	24,289,778	14	7
,, Investments:—			
,, Consols and other British Government Securities	3,405,300	5	8
,, Stocks Guaranteed by British Government, Indian and British Railway Debenture and Preference Stocks, British Corporation Stocks, Colonial and Foreign Government Stocks, etc.	4,883,911	0	3
,, Bills of Exchange	10,460,593	16	5
	43,039,523	16	11
,, Advances on Current Accounts, Loans on Security and other Accounts	46,441,982	6	5
,, Liabilities of Customers for Acceptances as per contra	6,741,031	14	5
,, Bank Premises at Head Office and Branches	2,054,396	7	1
	£98,276,934	4	10

CURRENT ACCOUNTS OPENED. DEPOSITS RECEIVED AT INTEREST. BILLS DISCOUNTED. LOANS MADE AGAINST SECURITIES. STOCK EXCHANGE ORDERS EXECUTED. DIVIDENDS AND COUPONS COLLECTED. SECURITIES HELD FOR SAFE CUSTODY. DRAFTS ISSUED. LETTERS OF CREDIT ISSUED.

764 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ENGLAND AND WALES

Numerous Agents all over the World.

THE FOREIGN BRANCH OFFICES—

Telegraphic Address—"Cinnaforex, Stock, London." FINCH LANE, LONDON, E.C. Telephone—2481 London Wall.

Telegraphic Address—"Midforex, Liverpool." 8, DALE STREET, LIVERPOOL. Telephone—5986 Central, Liverpool.

Telegraphic Address—"Midforex, Bradford." 15, TYRREL STREET, BRADFORD. Telephone—1315 Bradford.

ISSUE Currency Drafts on all Cities, Circular Letters of Credit and Circular Notes payable all over the world; also make Mail and Telegraphic Transfers to all Cities. COLLECT Foreign Bills. PURCHASE approved Foreign Bills. ESTABLISH Commercial Credits on behalf of Customers available anywhere against the usual shipping documents. Drafts, etc., may be obtained direct from the Head Office or Branches, which are always ready to give quotations.

THE SHIPPING DEPARTMENT—Telegraphic Address: "Cinnaship, Stock, London." Telephone: 2481 London Wall. Is specially organised to look after Shipowners' Freight Remittances from, and Disbursements to, all parts of the World by mail or cable.

EXECUTORS AND TRUSTEES—Telegraphic Address: "Cinnatrust, Stock, London." Telephone: 2481 London Wall. A separate Company has been formed by the Bank for undertaking the Executorship and Trusteeship of Wills and Marriage Settlements, and also as Trustees for Debenture Holders.

The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will OPEN on MONDAY, the 27th day of January, 1913, and will CLOSE on or before THURSDAY, the 30th day of January, 1913.

THE WEST INDIAN COPRA AND PRODUCE ESTATES, LIMITED.

CAPITAL - - £100,000,

DIVIDED INTO

98,000 Participating 7% Preference Shares of £1 each and 40,000 Deferred Shares of 1s. each.

NOW OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION AT PAR

48,000 Participating 7% Preference Shares of £1 each,

Payable 1s. per Share on Application; 4s. per Share on Allotment; 5s. per Share one month after Allotment; 10s. per Share two months after allotment.

After the Participating Preference Shares have in any year received a **Dividend of 7 per cent.**, the **surplus net profits** in such year available for Dividends go **half** to the **holders of the Participating Preference Shares** and half to the holders of the Deferred Shares, who are also entitled to half any surplus assets.

Every Subscriber for Participating Preference Shares is offered the right to subscribe for and have allotted 5 Deferred Shares at Par for each 25 Participating Preference Shares allotted to him, and so on in proportion. THE DEFERRED SHARES ARE PAYABLE IN FULL ON APPLICATION.

50,000 of the Participating Preference Shares are reserved for the Provision of Additional Working Capital.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

MAXWELL HYSLOP MAXWELL (Director of the Cunard Steamship Co., Ltd.), 63, South John Street, Liverpool, Chairman.
PATRICK HUGH MARSHALL (Messrs. Macvicar, Marshall and Co., Ship Owners; Director of the British Dominions General Insurance Co., Ltd.), Queen Insurance Buildings, Castle Street, Liverpool.
COMTE LOUIS de BLEGIER de PIERREGROSSE (of Rocca, Tassey et de Roux, Copra Oil Refiners, &c., Marseilles), 25, Quai le Leman, Geneva.
DUNCAN DUNBAR DICKSON, Planter, 32, St. Lawrence Road, Ladbroke Grove, London, W.
ERNEST TAYLOR CLARKE, Planter, 2, Blith Road, Kensington, London, W.
EDWARD KENNETH BIGGS (late Assistant District Commissioner British East Africa), Carberry, Wimbledon, Surrey.

BANKERS—The Capital and Counties Bank, Ltd., 35, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., Head Office and Branches.
West Indies—The Colonial Bank, Port of Spain, Trinidad, and Branches.
BROKERS—Teil, Rose and Co., 1 Tokenhouse Buildings, Lothbury, and Stock Exchange, London, E.C.; Pilkington and Dunlop, 6, Dale Street, and Stock Exchange, Liverpool; C. Hope Murray, Junr., 98, West George Street, and Stock Exchange, Glasgow.
SOLICITORS—Milner and Bickford, 10, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.
AUDITORS—Brown, Peet and Tilly, Chartered Accountants, 27, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.
SECRETARY (pro tem.) and REGISTERED OFFICE—Leslie St. Alphonse, 28, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed, *inter alia*:—

To acquire for either permanent retention, or for re-sale, amalgamate and deal in **Estates** IN PRESENT BEARING, producing **Coconut, Cocoa and other tropical products**, and in selected areas specially suitable for conversion into plantations; to carry on the business of **traders in Copra, Coconuts, Coconut Oil, Bristle and Coir Fibre, Cocoa-beans and other produce** which may profitably be dealt in; to act as commercial agents, manage and inspect plantations and generally to carry on the business usually transacted by a tropical plantation company.

PLANTATIONS.—The Company have entered into contracts for the acquisition of three freehold producing Estates in the Island of Tobago, BRITISH West Indies, together with the Residences, Factories, Plant, Machinery, Crops, Stock, etc., thereon.

DIVIDENDS.—From the production of Coconuts, Cocoa, Catcherops, Bristle, Coir-Fibre, and other products, and from Trading Profits (Purchase and Sale of the produce of other Estates), the Company should be enabled from its inception to earn profits sufficient, after allowing for London Administration Expenses, to commence paying dividends the first year, and thereafter the rate of dividend on the Participating Preference Shares should steadily increase year by year to 15 per cent. and upwards per annum, which dividend, from the stable nature of the industry, should be regularly maintained.

ADDITIONAL ESTATES.—Additional selected plantations, situated in the Island of Tobago and neighbouring British Colonies, will be more closely investigated with a view to negotiating their purchase.

Full Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained at the Company's Bankers, The Capital and Counties Bank, Ltd., 35, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., Head Offices and Branches; and from the Brokers, Solicitors, Auditors, and at the Registered Office of the Company.

The West Indian Copra and Produce Estates, Limited.

THIS FORM OF APPLICATION MAY BE USED.
(To be retained by the Bankers.)

To the Directors of the West Indian Copra and Produce Estates, Limited.

GENTLEMEN,—Having paid to the Company's Bankers the sum of £ being a deposit of 1s. per Share on Participating Preference Shares of £1 each in the above-named Company, I request that you will allot me that number of Shares, upon the terms of the Company's Prospectus, dated the 23rd day of January, 1913, and of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company; and I hereby agree to accept the same or any smaller number you may allot to me, and to pay on allotment and the balance as provided by the said Prospectus, and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members in respect of the Shares allotted to me.

NAME (in full) .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)
ORDINARY SIGNATURE .....

ADDRESS (in full).....

.....

PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION .....

"J.B." DATE.....

This form should be filled up and sent to the Bankers, or their branches, together with a cheque for the amount payable on application. Cheques should be made payable to "Bearer" and Crossed.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see page* 180.]

Consolidated Oilfields of South Africa.

As we go to press, information reaches us of an important character respecting this undertaking, and we are more than ever satisfied that the advice we have consistently given to our readers will be fully justified. We shall deal further with the matter in our next issue.

London Venture Corporation.

A reader calls our attention to what he describes as the "ingenious means adopted to expel the original shareholders or force them to create further capital by joining the new company." We have gone fully into the matter, however, and have come to the conclusion that the scheme is a fair one. The Company got into difficulties because it tied its money up in a number of assets which, although considered good, were not easily realisable, but ample funds are now guaranteed and we have reason to believe that the business will be put upon a sound basis.

Filmy Features.

Modestly tucked away in the advertisement columns of the *Sunday Chronicle*, we find the abridged prospectus of Feature Films, Ltd., which contains several features calling for criticism. For instance, the auditor states that if the value of the stocks in hand be correct (and he has no doubt that it is), the net profit on the year's working of the company was £1,319 os. 2½d. (mark his scrupulous exactitude), and the directors argue from these figures that as "the capital subscribed at the time of making up accounts for the year was £992, the profit is equal to over 130 per cent." We should like, however, to know a little more about that "stock." Of what does it consist, and on what basis has it been taken? We note, too, that, according to that document "the stock of posters, etc., has been taken by the Secretary." We do not know why he should have taken it; but we wish him joy of it.

A Shareholder's Guide.

We have received a copy of Mayhew's "What's What in the City," which deals in a concise and interesting manner with various aspects of company life. It would appear, however, to be only an instalment, as companion volumes are in course of preparation, dealing with directors and their records, etc. It is published at 2s. net, by Mayhew's Financial Publications, Ltd., 68, Basinghall Street, E.C. We note that Col. Mayhew gives preliminary details of his League for the Protection of Shareholders, which—properly organised and conducted—should certainly "fill a want."

More Insurance Act "Benefits."

As though the burdens which the Insurance Act impose upon the workers were not heavy enough, those insured persons who have joined the Hearts of Oak Benefit Society are in certain events to bear additional ones as the result of "penalties" which the Society seeks to impose. For instance, such heinous offences as neglecting to notify the Secretary of any change of address will subject a member to a fine of 1s.; whilst omitting to state in communications to the Society the name and full membership number will cost the forgetful correspondent 6d. We shall be very much surprised if the Insurance Commissioners countenance the imposition of such penalties, and in our opinion their legality is open to the gravest question.

The Law Guarantee Scandal.

Another effort is to be made to place the affairs of the Law Guarantee Trust and Accident Society into the hands of the official Winding-up Department. Our readers will remember how persistently we clamoured for compulsory—as against a voluntary—liquidation of this concern, and what pains we took in the libel action which Mr. F. J. Ronald brought against us two years ago, and lost, to force the matter upon the attention of the authorities. Shareholders are to meet the liquidators to-day (Wednesday), and it is to be hoped that the strong recommendation of those public-spirited members who have circulated the full report of the Committee which investigated the scandal and who now recommend compulsory liquidation, may be endorsed at the meeting.

Airships Wanted.

Willans and Robinson, Ltd., the Rugby engine-building concern formed in 1894, and which has paid no dividends on its ordinary shares since 1908, and is in arrear with its preference dividend since 1909, the last debit balance carried forward being £33 773, recently invited its shareholders to meet at Rugby on a Friday morning at 10.15, and at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, at 2.15 p.m. on the same day to discuss a preposterous scheme for handing over the management to an unnamed concern. In order to attend the meeting at Rugby at 10.15 a.m., London shareholders were obliged to leave Euston at 8.30 a.m., reaching Rugby station at 10.6, thus allowing them nine minutes within which to reach the company's offices. The time table set to the shareholders consequently was: Leave Euston 8.30 a.m. Arrive Rugby 10.6 a.m., attend meeting at 10.15 a.m. Leave Rugby 10.50 a.m. (or 11.10 a.m.), arrive Euston 12.40 p.m. (or 1.5 p.m.), attend meeting at Cannon Street Hotel at 2.15 p.m. The distance travelled by rail (there and back) would have been 165 miles, and the third-class return fare 13s. 9d.! The directors of Willans and Robinson, Ltd., should really have engaged air-ships to enable their shareholders to attend the meetings. That is, if they really wanted them to do so.

NEW ISSUES.

Credenda Conduits Company.

A respectable little Birmingham issue, which should be readily subscribed by the local people.

Trehurland Wolfram Tin Company.

Something English at last, but very speculative. The object of the company is to acquire and work certain wolfram and tin mines in Cornwall We do not recommend the shares—except as a gamble.

Auckland Harbour Loan.

An issue of a further half-million of Debentures, part of a million loan, ranking after nearly another million. The trade of the Port shows a steady increase, but we should like to know more about the Profits. How much of the item of £37,000, the "credit balance carried forward" for 1912 was brought forward from previous years? In other words, what were the actual profits for 1912?

Canadian Farms, Limited.

A tin-pot affair, in which the present holders of the only issued shares are apparently desirous of clearing out Canadian investors, beware!

Eastern Chemical Company.

This is a highly speculative concern, and which should be left severely alone by the ordinary investor. All that the Company gets at present is—certain options, plans, specifications and estimates, the benefit of "negotiations," and, finally, the benefit of an Indian Patent for "a process for the utilisation of "Paddy Husk." We should suggest a process for the utilisation of this prospectus—or, at any rate, of the application form.

West Indian Copra and Produce Estates.

A Company formed to acquire certain coconut, cocoa and other tropical Produce Estates said to be in actual bearing, in the Island of Tobago, West Indies. It is offering 48,000 Participating Preference shares—entitled to 7 per cent. and half the profits. The Board includes Comte de Blegier de Pierregrosse, of the firm of Rocca, Tassy and De Roux, said to be the largest copra oil refiners on the Continent, and Mr. M. H. Maxwell, Director of the Cunard Steamship Co., and a member of the shipping firm of Macvicar, Marshall and Co., two planters with practical experience of the cultivation contemplated, and the late Assistant Commissioner of British East Africa. We understand that the last Copra issue was over subscribed.

City of Bahia Loan.

An issue of £1,600,000 of 5 per cent. Bonds, secured (in addition to the general revenue of the city) by a special hypothecation of the House Tax and Industries and Profession Tax. There is also the provision that "no future loan can rank in priority to or *pari passu* with" this loan.

Toronto Power Company.

If it were not Canadian we should see no objection to this issue of Debentures—but it *is* Canadian. *Verb. sap!*

Edmonton, Dunvegan and British Columbia Railway.

Also Canadian. No good to British investors. The stock is merely being palmed off by shrewd financiers who have purchased it cheap. Some day we shall have a rude awakening.

Motor Owner's Petrol Combine.

Under respectable auspices, this company has been formed to secure for motorists "some of the enormous profits which are now being made by the groups controlling the existing supplies" of petrol. There should certainly be a lucrative field of enterprise open to the company.

A Plain and STRAIGHT Offer—£5 a Week for Life. **See page 171.**

AN IMPERIAL ENTERPRISE.

"We may look forward to an African Petroleum Trade with the World. Great volumes of "Oil ooze from the earth in many places, and this wondrous country is just as likely to fill the "pockets of its exploiters with millions of money got from Oil as from any other undeveloped "product," says a recent Cape Government publication.

The occurrence of Petroleum in many parts of South Africa is an established fact; but no systematic or scientific attempt has yet been made to prove its existence in payable quantities.

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD., has recently been formed with a capital of £250,000 divided into shares of £1 each, for the purpose of seriously exploiting, for the first time, these known Oil regions.

The Company has provided for a working capital of £50,000, and has acquired exclusive rights for working **Oil and all other Minerals**, for a period of ten years, over 150 square miles in the Ceres district, Cape Province—together with the option of acquiring the freehold of the properties at any time during that period.

Eminent Oil Experts have examined the ground and certified to its petroliferous character..

"The Guide to South and East Africa," issued by the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company, Limited, says:—"The chain of hill-encircled plains near and to the north of Ceres undoubtedly "contain deposits of the mineral (Petroleum) in question. It is only found in payable quantities "in places where the later deposits of rock have remained practically undisturbed by the intrusion "of igneous matter, conditions which are fulfilled in this locality."

These remarks refer to the identical locality in which the Company's lands are situated.

The operations of the Company will not be confined to the Ceres district.

The imports of Oil into South Africa exceed in value £500,000 per annum.

The potentialities of the Company are enormous. According to a leading American authority, its £1 shares may at any moment attain the value of £200 from its Oil rights alone.

The value of the other Mineral rights is being investigated, and, according to present information, is likely to prove sensational.

The pioneers of the new industry are the **South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, Limited**, of 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C., from whom full particulars of the Company and all further information may be obtained.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA.—L. F. (Barnes), F. R. B. (Kimberley), L. B. (Johannesburg).—You must choose between the advice of this journal and that of the one you mention—and have your money on us.

SHARE DISPUTE.—NOVACASTRIAN.—We advise you to communicate with the Committee of the Stock Exchange, laying all the facts before them, supported by such documents as are available, and they will see that justice is done to you.

"BANK NOTES AND COLLEGE NOTES."—COPY CROOKS.—No such concerns are known here, and we regret being unable to help you in the matter.

ASSOCIATED COAL CONSUMERS.—VECTIS.—There is no market for these shares, and you can only dispose of them by negotiation, through an advertisement, or otherwise.

CITY OF TOKYO LOAN.—R. J. Y. (Stafford).—This is not a gilt-edged investment, or it would not be yielding such a comparatively high return. It is a good second-class security, with a fair prospect of recovery. At present, like other stocks, it is kept down chiefly by Balkan troubles.

SHIP CANAL.—F. E. H. (Hunslet).—We certainly think the shares in question might as well be disposed of now. A bird in hand is worth two in the bush—in a case of this kind.

FOREIGN BANKERS.—FRANCO.—As far as we are aware the firm in question is quite respectable, but, of course, we cannot make ourselves responsible for their transactions.

SAVINGS INVESTMENT CONCERN.—A. W. T. (Taunton).—We have systematically advised our readers against investment in such concerns, most of which are based on unsound principles. It is hard to lose, but foolish to throw more good money after bad. We advise you to cut your loss.

CANADIAN BUILDING BOND.—S. M. (Old Kent Road).—We look with more than usual suspicion upon all such offers. The Bonds in question are not known here, and, of course, have no official quotation. We do not recommend a purchase.

OPTIONS.—SUSSEX.—Members of the Stock Exchange do not care to transact this kind of fancy option business, especially when it is for such small sums, and, in any case, there is very little to be made out of them in the long run. Moreover, the advice of such a concern as that mentioned is hardly likely to be disinterested. If you want to have a dabble, why not buy direct, say, some of the cheap rubber or oil shares?

MARGARINE CONCERN.—INQUIRER (Stonehaven).—It does not follow that the success of one particular concern absolutely assures similar results in the case of imitators, and this remark applies to the company in question. We do not care for the shares. Sell, if you can.

HUASTICA PETROLEUM CO.—TAMPICO.—This is apparently a producing property, but there is really very little information available on this side, and you should take care to have a hard-and-fast agreement, with satisfactory guarantees.

LANGEN (JAVA) RUBBER ESTATES.—J. W. (Glasgow).—This Company is one of the Harrison and Crosfields group, and appears to be making good progress. All Java rubber concerns are in high feather just now, and these particular shares have already had a fair rise. Perhaps it would be as well now to await a temporary reaction before getting in.

DIAMOND PROPRIETARY.—F. B. (Helmhole).—We understand that some important developments in connection with the property have had to be deferred, owing to a change of management in South Africa and a dispute over a contract for the water rights over a farm, which, we believe, is now in course of settlement on a basis satisfactory to the Company. You should certainly hold.

KANSAS CITY TERMINAL RAILWAY.—A. F. M. (Clondalkin).—We have nothing to add to or withdraw from our criticisms.

GALICIAN STANDARD OIL MINING CO.—SMALL INVESTOR (Leyton).—We think well of the prospects of the undertaking.

SCOTTISH LEGAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—AFFLECK TALBOT.—Subject to your approving the conditions of the assurance relating to lapsing and surrender, in the event of the premium payments being discontinued before the policy matures, we see no objection to your effecting the Endowment with profits payable at age 55. The rate of premium is favourable.

ROYAL LONDON FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—A. S. J. (Harlesden).—Provided the policy was issued "on the life of another," and the proposer at the time had a bonâ-fide expectation that she would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured, it is in order. The ignorance of the father as regards the existence of the policy does not invalidate the assurance, unless his signature was written on the proposal form, and the policy was in consequence issued in his name direct.

SALVATION ARMY ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—H. C. (Garston).—Having submitted a claim, payment has been refused, you say, on the ground that the cause of death was of long standing (which you assert was not the case), and, further, that the policy was not in benefit. According to the medical certificate, death occurred on October 18 last, and the premium receipt-book shows the acceptance by the agent of 3s. 0½d. in the same month "on revival." The Society say "this matter has had our consideration, but, in view of the circumstances, we regret we are unable to make any allowances in connection with this policy." We are not able, on the information given, to express a definite opinion as regards the legality or otherwise of your claim, and we advise you to consult a local solicitor.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—CONSTANT READER.—The policy has not been in force a sufficiently long period to enable you to dispose of it to advantage. As you are unable to continue the premiums, you could, in lieu of accepting a cash Surrender Value, obtain a Fully-paid policy. You had better get into communication with the secretary.

LONDON HEALTH INSURANCE SOCIETY.—R. J. (London).—We agree that "to have to wait months for the commission of 3d. per head"—till the Society "receives funds from the Commissioners"—is, as you say, "adding insult to injury."

INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE POLICIES.—T. B. (Kendal).—Not having the policies before us, it is difficult to say whether or not they are illegal and the premiums recoverable. You inform us that they are issued on the life of an uncle, without his knowledge or consent. The policies having been issued prior to the Act of 1909, the absence of an insurable interest, or the fact that the name of the person interested, or for whose benefit or on whose account the policy was effected, was not inserted, does not void it, provided it was effected by or on account of a person who had at the time a bonâ-fide expectation that he would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured.

MUTUAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT AND ACCIDENT CO.—SANTAN.—The financial position of the Company, and the ability to meet applications for loans made by Certificate holders, should be investigated. The method adopted in dealing with your case does not inspire confidence. We should sue (a) for breach of contract, and (b) non-compliance with the provisions of the Life Assurance Act, 1909.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—LEO.—Send us the policy. Meanwhile we are retaining the papers. R. H. O. (Cardiff)—forward us the two policies which you say were effected by your wife on the life of her aunt. We note the Secretary's statement that "if, as you state, they were taken out without your knowledge or consent, that is quite immaterial.

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COMPANY.—A. B. C. (Treorchy).—If the Endowment and House Purchase benefits were misrepresented, you may be able to establish a good claim for the return of the £20 paid, but we are not in a position to advise definitely in the absence of all the particulars. You had better consult a local solicitor.

ANNUITY.—A. T. (Walthamstow).—Sun Life of Canada and Confederation for preference. Get their prospectuses and compare.

HEARTS OF OAK BENEFIT SOCIETY (National Insurance Act).—H. A. G. (London).—We very much question the legality of imposing fines on subscribers for omitting to quote their reference number in any communication they make to the Society, or neglecting to notify the Secretary of their change of address. We should advise you to write to the Insurance Commissioners and obtain their ruling on the points you raise. See our City Note on the subject.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL ASSURANCE CO.—C. Mc. C.—(Galston).—The amount payable as Surrender Value is in the absolute discretion of the directors on the advice of their actuary, and you must therefore accept what they are prepared to give. They would doubtless be willing to exchange the Certificate for a short-term Endowment Life Assurance policy, and add the subscriptions paid under the Certificate to the amount of the policy. It may be to your advantage to adopt the latter course. Ascertain their terms and then decide.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—X. Y. Z. (Poole).—The position is somewhat complicated, owing to the several changes made in the payment of the premiums by different persons since the death of the original holder, A. The Company doubtless examined all the documents carefully before assenting to pay the claim to E., subject to the signature of F. being obtained. You had better, therefore, explain the difficulty which has arisen with F. and ask advice. Not having the will made by C. before us, we are unable to speak definitely on the point you have raised. In all the circumstances, we should not open the question whether a return of the premiums can be enforced.—T. B. (Middlesboro').—The policy is "on the life of another," and is in order, provided it was taken up to meet expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured. The premium receipt-book shows that the last payment was made on November 18, 1912, and that the arrears at that date were 5s., which have been outstanding since 1910. On November 26 you tendered the usual weekly premium, which you say was refused by the inspector on the ground that all arrears must be paid. On the facts as you have presented them we consider you have been badly treated, and we should recommend you to write direct to the Head Office, and ascertain what they are prepared to do for you and what they advise, as it is clear you cannot allow the matter to rest where it now stands, which would mean the forfeiture to the Company of all the moneys you have paid.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO.—MRS. B. (Holloway).—You cannot claim any cash unless the policies are under the Old Age Endowment Tables, and even then the amount would be small. If you accept free policies, you cannot accept cash for them later on, as they are payable at death only. With regard to your youngest child, you cannot get any cash surrender except by paying five complete years' premiums. The Company would then give you a cash surrender of £1 18s. out of the £8 10s. you pay in during that period. F. C. (Anerley).—It is not necessary for parents to fill up the proposal forms. They should, however, have signed them. In any case, it would be difficult to prove after such a lengthy period, and we do not think you would be able to recover the premiums paid. M. A. P. (Johannesburg).—You cannot claim the return of the premiums paid, but you could obtain a free policy for about £7 6s. by making application to the Company. Your having resided in South Africa without permission would make no difference, as the policies have been made world-wide some years ago.

A number of replies are held over.

Our First "Bullets" Prize increased from £300 to £350.

Sorting Out the "Crooks."

A FEW WORDS ABOUT CONTINENTAL SWEEPSTAKES.

The desire to make money easily is inherent in human nature, and there is scarcely one amongst us who in some way or another does not "trust to luck" or "take a chance" many a time during life's journey.

The child will risk its penny in a dip at the lucky bag, whilst the parent may be staking his all on a speculation in cotton or "investing" in some wild cat scheme, calculated to bring him fortune or the reverse. There is fascination in "taking a chance," which no amount of restrictive legislation will subdue, nor any repression restrain.

Other countries recognise this and wisely seek merely to control the machinery and safeguard their citizens against fraud, rather than to suppress. We will not dwell upon our insular legislative action in the matter, for to do so would be to write a tirade upon the absurdity of repressive measures. These only serve to enable scoundrels to more thoroughly and effectively fleece their dupes, whilst they themselves are protected from harm by residence abroad.

Recognising that the love of having a "little flutter" cannot be suppressed by legislation, we have pointed out where readers could send with a certainty of having a "fair run for their cash," and—if successful—get the whole of the prize money without deduction in any shape or form.

Just now footballers all over the kingdom have been estimating the chances of the various teams they favour. Taking advantage of their natural desire to have a "bit on," shady swindlers have been issuing cleverly worded sheets, drawing attention to the opportunity of obtaining rich prizes by the investment of a few shillings in football sweep tickets.

Readers of JOHN BULL will, however, be wary and, remembering our warnings in the past, will only entrust their money to firms whose reputation for integrity and honour is beyond reproach. They will remember the accounts we gave of the method in which Mr. H. Diamond, Lucerne, Switzerland, conducts his Turf Sweepstakes. Our Commissioner was present at the drawings, in the interest of our readers, and to make it impossible for any person to have the slightest cause for complaint. Mr. Diamond's system was thoroughly explained, and it was pointed out how even the slightest possibility of fraud was removed.

On precisely similar lines to his Turf sweeps, Mr. Diamond inaugurated a football sweep. The same safeguards to the public were observed, and representatives of the Press were present in the interest of their several readers. Let us recapitulate, substituting clubs for horses, and our readers will know how the chances in which they invested were treated.

As before, two lottery wheels were used; one wheel contained the numbers of all the tickets that had been paid for, and the other wheel held sixty-four metal tubes with screw tops. Each tube contained a typewritten slip, bearing the name of a club competing for the English Football Cup. The names and numbers were drawn by two little Swiss girls who could not speak English. The wheels were turned for a considerable time, and were then stopped and unlocked. A ticket was taken from one wheel, and a sealed tube from the other, the number of the ticket was called out, together with the name and address of the purchaser, followed by the name of the club. This method was continued until all the sixty-four clubs had been drawn. A further hundred tickets were then drawn, and the holders of these will receive a consolation award of £1. Then still another four hundred numbers were drawn, and the holders of these will each receive a consolation award of 10s. The prizes will be paid in postal orders and bank notes after each round is played.

Our Special Commissioner took a complete list of the numbers as they were drawn, and the names and addresses of the ticket holders. These details have been printed and sent to all subscribers, and it is therefore possible for them to know exactly where the prizes are going.

We are often written to by enquirers who state that they do not believe that it is possible for a man to sell tickets at a shilling each and pay £1,000 or more in prizes. Well, we have closely investigated the seven sweeps conducted by Mr. Diamond during 1912, and we are quite certain that every drawing was absolutely straight and above-board, and we are equally certain that all the prize money was promptly paid. We have every reason to believe that the promoter did not make a profit on some of the sweeps, but of course he did on others, and there is not the least doubt that owing to the straightforward manner in which the whole business is carried on his sweeps will continue to grow and the prize money will be constantly increased.

It has been a source of great pleasure to us to find that many of the swindling firms have given up the game in disgust; our exposnres having helped to this very laudable effect. Mr. H. Diamond's methods have also been a considerable help in this direction, for he has shown the public how sweeps should be conducted, and his result sheets give all possible details. If other people do not give this information the public understand the reason and leave these people severely alone. Mr. Diamond does not claim perfection for his methods, but on the contrary he is never satisfied. Every person present at his drawings is always asked for suggestions for their improvement and any practicable idea is at once adopted. We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and above-board.

Our Special Commissioner will be present at the drawing for H. Diamond's Grand National Sweep. There are 2,953 prizes value £2,000, and the drawing of the numbers will take the greater part of two days. The tickets are, as usual, only one shilling each, and to those who have not seen the business in full swing, it must seem impossible that these large prizes can really be paid. But readers can safely put their trust in the H. Diamond sweepstakes. No matter how few tickets are sold, it is absolutely certain that the whole of the two thousand pounds will be paid in full—and in cash—on the Wednesday after the Grand National

Our readers frequently ask us the following question: "How can we know whether the numbers that we pay for are included in the drawing?" This is another point where the Diamond sweeps score. The prizes are stated in advance, and are guaranteed. Every prize must be won by someone. The promoters have, therefore, nothing whatever to gain by keeping any numbers out. We regard this as a very important point. Our readers should consider it carefully.

During the past year we have been investigating sweepstakes, and we have not finished yet. We hope to make it impossible for the crooked sweepstakes to exist. When the business ceases to be profitable, the "wrong 'uns" will soon quit. Whilst we are helping our readers in every possible way, it must be remembered that we cannot do everything. We are working in their interests and they must help. If they are in doubt about a sweepstake, they should not buy tickets without first consulting us. It is useless for them to write to us *after* they have been rooked; they should make their enquiries before investing their cash.

As our readers are aware, the stupid law of England does not permit of advertisements of sweepstakes, and we can only refer any who may be interested in the subject to communicate direct with Mr. H. Diamond, Lucerne, Switzerland.

£1,655 FOR BULLETS!

OUR FIRST PRIZE AGAIN INCREASED.

This week we are increasing our First Prize to the huge sum of **£350.** We are also giving **2,000 ADDITIONAL PRIZES,** making over 5,000 awards to the total value of **£1,655.**

FIRST PRIZE - - £350

PRIZES VALUE £1,655

SECOND PRIZE - - - - £50
THIRD PRIZE - - - - £10.
Ten Prizes of £2 10s. each.
A Large Number of £1 and 10s. Prizes,
200 Prizes of 7/6
AND
5,000 OTHER VALUABLE PRIZES.

PRIZES VALUE £1,655

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

APPROVED SOCIETY
VOTES FOR WOMEN
FOOTBALL MATCH
MOST TEMPTING
WHISPERS OF LOVE
SEEING LIFE
OLD WOMAN
IN A MUDDLE
LOVING COUPLE
WAY OUT
VENUS
FORLORN HOPE
SPIDER AND FLY
UNNECESSARY EVIL
SEVERE PUNISHMENT
WANTED A MAN
MY DEAR
WHY COOK LEFT
WHEN YOUNG
A LAWYER
SORRY HE SPOKE
RAILWAY BUN
A PEERAGE
MOONSHINE
THE LIMIT
ALL MY EYE
WITHOUT MONEY
NURSEMAID
BRITISH PUBLIC
FUNNY FEELING
MRS. NEWRICH
MIGHT HAVE BEEN
A SECRET
BEST AVOIDED
TALL ORDER
NEW YORK
VERY SEVERE
FREE SPEECH
YES
MOTHERS' MEETING

IMPORTANT.

EVERY BULLETS COUPON RECEIVED IS SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY READ BY OUR SPECIAL STAFF OF ADJUDICATORS. AFTER WHICH ALL THE COUPONS ARE READ A SECOND TIME WITH THE SAME TROUBLE AND CARE.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "FOOTBALL MATCH" and choose the letters "T" and "B," using the word "WATCH" as the middle word, you can form the Bullet, "THOUSANDS WATCH BREATHLESSLY." Or from the example "WHISPERS OF LOVE" the Bullet "PLEASE SWEETHEARTS" can be formed. Again, if you take the example, "WHEN YOUNG," and choose the letter "W" as initial for both the first and last word you can form the Bullet, "WEDLOCK is WELCOMED."

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence, but if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Closing date, Wednesday, Feb. 5th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(18) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditionsannounced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

Closing date, Wednesday, Feb. 5th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(18) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditionsannounced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 18," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, assisted by a competent staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on this page, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of _____ sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, February 5th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.

7. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.

8. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

RESULT OF FIFTEENTH BULLETS COMPETITION.

IRST PRIZE OF £250:—

Mr. PERCY A. GOODWIN,
Ash House, South View Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea.
Example:—ALGY FITZNOODLE.
Bullet:—A "BAR" LAMB.

ECOND PRIZE OF £25:—

r. A. E. JEFFRIES,
68, Alexandra Park Road, Wood Green, London, N.
Example:—MARRIED AGAIN.
Bullet:—MATED, CREMATED, REMATED.

HIRD PRIZE OF £10:—

IS DIVIDED BETWEEN

rs. GIBBONS,
3, Leyton Road, Handsworth, Birmingham,
Example:—NINETEEN THIRTEEN.
Bullet:—IMAGINARY ILLNESS RIFE.
AND

Mr. F. GIBBS,
57, Freemantle Road, Gotham, Bristol.
Example:—NINETEEN THIRTEEN.
Bullet:—HUNDREDS SHAM ILLNESS.

TEN Prizes of £2 10s. are awarded as follows:

Mr. W. H. BAKER, 13, Manor Road, Chelmsford, Essex (REMNANT SALES—STRENGTH SECURES LENGTH); Mr. H. W. [illegible]S, 17, St. Martin's Avenue, East Ham, E. (MOST PECULIAR [illegible]NG—LADY-FARE READY); Mrs. K. HARWOOD, 2, Con[illegible]ght Mansions, Prince of Wales' Road, Battersea Park, [illegible]. (MOST PECULIAR THING—CORRECT TAX RETURN); [illegible] F. HILL, 25, Salisbury Road, Harringay, N. (PAWN TICKETS [illegible]MBARRASSING, INADVERTENTLY PRODUCED); Mr. G. S. [illegible]E, Baglan, Briton Ferry, Glam. (A LOTTERY—OCEAN [illegible]VELLING LATELY); Mr. F. W. KEEP, Dursley, Gloucester [illegible]ST PECULIAR THING—GOVERNMENT CLERK PERSPIRING); [illegible] M. MCARDLE, 4, Manor Place, Dublin (TOMMY'S FIRST [illegible]KE—OBSERVANT POLICEMAN FINISHED); Mr. L. C. OFFORD, 19, Holland Road, Willesden, N.W. (MANKIND—NONENTITIES AND—MYSELF); Mr. J. VERNON, 28, Stondon Park, Forest Hill, S.E. (MARRIED AGAIN—DISAPPOINTED HOUSEKEEPER RESIGNS); Mr. H. A. ZAACK, 37, Burdett Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex (SUING FOR PEACE—GAUDLE SHAMS SLEEP).

10 PRIZE WINNERS of £1 EACH.

ALEXANDER, WM., 27, Southampton Row, W.C.
DEVEREAUX, J. W., 25, Stanbridge Road, Putney, S.W.
FOAN, G. A., 2, Market Place, Saffron Walden, Essex.
FOWLER, H., Silverdale, Fairfield Crescent, Liverpool.
INGRAM, Mrs. J. A., Ashburn, Greenside, Peebles.
NURSE, J. M., c.o. Miss Bostock, Matron, Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.
RADCLIFFE, J., 8, Ellison Terrace, Lezaine Road, Ramsey, I.O.M.
TAYLOR, J. T., 8, West Bank, Stamford Hill, N.
WEAVER, F., 37, Woodstock Road, Finsbury Park, N.
WEBSTER, A., c.o. Offset Litho, Ltd., 42, Martell Rd, West Dulwich, S.E.

20 PRIZE WINNERS of 10s. EACH.

BOWLES, G. H., 4, Pennington Rd., Litherland, Liverpool.
CLARK, A. T., 29, Abbotsbury Road, Westham, Weymouth.
EVANS, E. R., 33, Cresswell Road, E. Twickenham, Middlesex.
FOX, W. J., 17, Butt Park Terrace, Honicknowle, Crownhill, R.S.O.
GASCOIGNE, A. G., Hundred, Romsey, Hants.
GEORGE, E., 217, Strone Road, Manor Park, Essex.
GIFFORD, J., Town Clerk's Office, Aberavon, Glam.
HARRIS, J., Pen-y-Graig, Aberbeeg, Mon.
HOPKINS, F., 91, Murillo Road, Lee, S.E.
JESSOP, W., Higginshaw, Oldham.
KINGWELL, W. W., 12, Pellatt Road, Lordship Lane, S.E.
MCGOVERN, J., Carlton Drill Hall, Southampton.
MILLER, L. L., 158, Castle Road, Scarborough, Yorks.
PERKIN, R., 8, College Street, Accrington.
PINK, F. B., Haywood Road, Mapperley, Notts.
PRICE, W. H., Hairdresser, Barry, Glam.
RODERICK, P., 11, Brynheulog Terrace, Aberbeeg, Mon.
RUDDERHAM, Miss M., Denmark House, Luton, Beds.
SMITH, J., White House, Chaveney Road, Quorn, near Loughborough.
WALKER, H., 14, Pound Road, Beccles, Suffolk.

ST OF 200 PRIZE WINNERS OF 7s. 6d. EACH. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 15.

A selection from the List of 3,000 winners of valuable Prizes can be seen in "Mrs. Bull" dated Feb. 8th.

ahams, R., 52, Salisbury-ter., arlington.
G., 2, Mill-parade, Newport, Mon.
land, W., 83, Tatton-st., Stalyridge, Cheshire.
rett, B. J., Edgell, Crediton.
on, J., 2, Silverbirch-rd., B'ham.
row, Mrs. L., 22, Grenfell-rd., Heref'd.
y, Mrs. W., Sunnyside, Gaywood, King's Lynn.
man, G., 70, Winter-rd., Southsea.
lford, Mrs. F., Church-rd., Addlestone, Surrey.
sford, J., 51, Blakeney-rd., Sheffield.
h, C., "The Gardens," Sturry, nr. Canterbury.
hop, Mrs. H., 72, Park-st., Stoke wington, London.
els, E., Thelwall-view, Grappenall, Warrington.
ie, Miss H., Camphill, Paisley.
isher, E., Llanfair-rd., Penygraig, Wales.
lish, W., Strandfield, Wexford, Irel'd.
t, W., 105F, Queen's-rd., New edegar, Mon.
t, G., Quebec-st., E. Dereham, orfolk.
n, H., 8, Jessica-rd., Wandsworth.
, A., 12, Greenham-rd., Muswell ill, N.
livant, J., 528, Mill-st., Openshaw, anchester.
, C., 212, Shield-rd., Newcastle-on-yne.
hman, A., 13, Cavendish-grove, rles, Manchester.
eron, J., 2, Cleveland-ave., N. Shields.
el, H., 44, Portland-rd., Oxford.
y, L., 2, Grove Mansions, Wanstead, sex.
t, H., 101, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.
tes, W., 7, Archery-st., Leeds.
rot, H., 64, Warwick-st., Leamington a.
es, G., Shortwood, Mount-parade, arrogate.
man, R., 4, Argyle-sq., King's oss, W.C.
ins, T., 37, Corn-st., Bristol.
per, W., 20, Clarence-st., Plymouth.
shaw, J., Roseville, Weybridge.
rther, M., Cavendish-ter., Guiseley, Leeds.
, A., 5, Mount Pleasant, Newton bbot, Devon.
aming, Mrs. G., Friar-st., Craigie, rth.
hbert, R., 349, Gt. Cheetham-st., anchester.
rton, G. L., The Castle, Stirling, N.B.
ins, Mrs. D., Trelawney, Higher ith-rd., Torquay.
ins, Mrs. L., 24, Power-st., Battersea.
. Mrs. J., 133, Downhill-rd., Catford.
es, E., 1, Graig-ter., Dowlais, Glam.
es, Miss G., 27, Hawthorne-st., owle, Bristol.
Dickson, A., Albany House, Galashiels, N.B.
Dixon, L., 263, Selly Oak-rd., King's Norton, Birmingham.
Dixon, J., 2, Fern Villas, Ashford, Middlesex.
Drake, H., 3, Sea-view, Above Town, Dartmouth, Devon.
Dugan, W., 7, Village-grove, Everton.
Edge, J., Hoscar Villa, Lathom, nr. Ormskirk, Lanca.
Eldridge, F., 206, Robertson-st., Battersea.
Everest, Miss G., 160, Wantage-rd., Reading.
Fawn, Mrs. E., 60, Willingham-st., Grimsby.
Fellows, M., 13, Elbys-rd., Coventry.
Fisher, J., 126, Walmer-st., Belfast.
Fitzpatrick, P., 36, Brougham-st., Tranmere, Birkenhead.
Flemming, A., Booth Hall Infirmary, Manchester.
Ford, T., 15, Stourcliff-st., Edgware-rd., W.
Fraser, P., 383, Old Kent-rd., S.E.
Freney, M., 4, Belvedere-court, Upper Gardiner-st., Dublin.
Garland, H., 63, King's-ave., New Malden, Surrey.
German, A., 1, Sherley Villas, Hornchurch.
Gilbert, G., 107, Minard-rd., Catford, S.E.
Golton, J., 12, Airdale-ter., Skipton-in-Craven, Yorkshire.
Grant, Sergt. P., The Cameronian Scottish Rifles, Hamilton, N.B.
Gray, A., 6, Liverpool-rd., Birkdale, Southport.
Green, Mrs. A., Jubilee Cottages, Mellis, nr. Eye, Suffolk.
Greening, F., 63, Cathays-ter., Cardiff, S. Wales.
Hallewell, W., 74, High-st. West, Sunderland, Co. Durham.
Hamilton, Mrs. F., St. Aubyns, Cromer.
Hanrahan, H., Ballyerra Lodge, Kilrush, Co. Clare, Ireland.
Harper, S., 8, Goschen-st., Southwick, Sunderland.
Harris, J., 128, Purves-rd., Willesden.
Harrison, A., 45, Upper Lewes-rd., Brighton.
Harrison, J., 70, Arden-st., Edinburgh.
Hawkins, E., General Manager of Colne Valley Railway, Halstead, Essex
Hawley, H., 75, Cranmer-st., Hinckley-rd., Leicester.
Hay, J., Cruickness, Inverkeithing, Fife
Henshall, W., 21, Isabel-grove, Tuebrook, Liverpool.
Hewith, J., 24, Church-st., Weedon, Northants.
Highsmith, J., 80, Newall-st., Bradford.
Hill, I., Woodside, St Albans-cres., Woodford Green.
Hocken, J., 38, Skelton-rd., Forest Gate, E.
Hopwood, J., 25, Platt-st., Bolton, Lancs.
Holder, Mrs. M., 14, Burlington-cres., Canton, Cardiff.
Howell, J., 73, Baden-st., Ashton Old-rd., Ardwick, Manchester.
Hulbert, P., 104, Brockley Rise, S.E.
Huntley, F., 27, Prince of Wales'-rd., Battersea Park.
Jackson, E., 85, Wilton-ave., South'mptn.
James, F., 8, St. Bride-rd., Egremont, Cheshire.
Jaques, Mrs. F., 1a, Station-parade, High-rd., E. Finchley, N.
Jones, B., Hyde-ter., Kidsgrove, Staffs.
Jones, W., 8, Bailey-st., Watts Town, Ynyshir, Glam.
Jones, D., 34, High-st., Clydach Vale, Glam.
Johnson, T., 64, Ivor-rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham.
Johnston, J., 1, Cambridge-rd., Battersea Park, S.W.
Keene, H., The Shanty, Gerald-rd., Bournemouth.
Keynton, Sergt.-Major E., 5th Battery, 15th Brigade R.F.A., Hilsea, Portam'th.
King, R., 68, Blenheim-gdns., Wallington, Surrey.
Kirby, J., Fernville, Huntington, nr. York, Yorks.
Kitchman, Elizabeth, 56, Tivoli-pl., Bradford, Yorks.
Knight, R., Schoolmaster, Chilcompton, Bath, Somerset.
Knight, A., Breck Hill, Brede, Sussex.
Kerr, W. D., c/o Miss Pennycook, 291, Causeway-side, Edinburgh.
Le Grove, J., c/o 52, Hanover-sq., Bradford, Yorks.
Lever, J., 53, Knowsley-rd., Bolton, Lancs.
Lewis, Mrs. A., 78, Kendal-rd., Mossrd., Stretford, Manchester.
Lithgow, Mrs. L., 54, Warton-ter., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Longhurst, H., Beynhurst, Burnt Tree, Tipton.
Maas, Miss H., 9, Hamilton-rd., Highbury Park, N.
Maguire, W., 12, Coombe-st., Stoke, Coventry.
Martin, W., 437, Main-st., Coatbridge, Scotland.
Mackenzie, J., c/o Hamilton, 30, Brunton-ter., Edinburgh.
Macpherson, D., Hillside-ter., Cambuslang, Glasgow.
McEntegart, J., 38, Ponsonby-st., Princes Park, Liverpool.
McFall, —, 14, Hotspur-st., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Moore, T., Senny Villa Park-view, Tylorstown, Rhondda Valley.
Morgan, S., 19, Forfar-rd., Lordship-lane, Wood Green, N.
Morris, A., 25, Railway-rd., Urmston, Manchester.
Mose, R., "The Beehive," Trafalgar-st., Brighton.
Niblett, N., Castle Villa, Stroud, Glos.
McAvoy, J. R., Inchgower, Ross-ave., Inverness.
Neeves, Miss M., 141, Camden-rd., Tunbridge Wells.
Newbiggin, G., N.E.R. Estate Office, York.
Newell, Mrs. F., No. 22 Block, Md. Qrs., Barracks, Cork, Ireland.
Noakes, Miss M., P.O., Horsted Keynes, Sussex.
Ostler, F., Oswestry House, 6, Nelson-rd., Central, Gt. Yarmouth.
Packham, Mrs. K., Long Sutton, Langport, Somerset.
Parrish, C., 28, Cavendish-st., Keighley.
Patience, Mrs. W., 91, Chestnut-rd., Plumstead, Kent.
Pattison, W., Summer-pl., Dyce, Aberdeenshire.
Pearce, C., 56, Meldon-ter., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Perkin, O., Station-rd., St. Ives, Hunts.
Price, P., Hill Crest, Alma-rd., Herne Bay.
Proudman, T., 127, Gorsefield-rd., Birkenhead.
Punshon, R., 11, Eden Vale, Sunderl'd.
Pirrie, J., 13, Aberdeen-rd., Bristol.
Quigley, J., 3, Parliament-sq., Edinb'gh.
Randall, C., 53, Crouch Hill, Stroud Green.
Ratcliffe, J., 33, Crawford-ave., Smithdown-rd., Liverpool.
Redhead, A., Stone House Farm, Farcet, nr. Peterboro'.
Read, E., 13, The Watton, Brecon, S. Wales.
Richards, W., 22, Henton-rd., Gloucester.
Richardson, Miss, 38, Albert-ter., Middlesbro'-on-Tees, Yorkshire.
Riddle, R., 42, Crossgate, Durham.
Ritchie, F., Tennyson Villa, Hucknall Torkard, Notts.
Robinson, J., 16, Guildhall-rd., Nth mptn.
Robertson, W., Colpy, by Insch, Aberdeenshire.
Roller, A., 28, Westbeech-rd., Noel Park, Wood Green, N.
Rose, W., 15, Oliver-grove, South Norwood, S.E.
Rose, E., Bincleaves, Coulsdon, Surrey.
Rutherford, W., 70, Carlton-rd., Derby.
Rhodes, F., 10, Hanley-rd., Southamp'n.
Salvage, Mrs. M., 14, Bath-bldgs., Cheltenham-rd., Bristol.
Scoones, A., "Oldbourne," 75, Arran-rd., Catford.
Sharp, Corpl. S., 192, Victoria Park-rd., S. Hackney, N.E.
Shaw, Miss M., 151, Tufnell Park-rd., Holloway, N.
Shaw, G., 8, Wagg-st., Congleton, Cheshire.
Shepherd, A., 74, Blyth-rd., Lea Bridge-rd., Walthamstow.
Sillis, Mrs. H., 24, Dryden-st., Westcott-st., Hull.
Simmonds, G., 4, Gt. College-st., Brighton.
Small, W., Rate Collector, Crawley.
Smith, T. E., 10, Sandringham-rd., Cardiff.
Soloman, L., 50, Chandos-rd., Cricklewood, N.W.
Soulsby, E., Fenwick-grove, Morpeth.
Spence, Mrs. A., 21, Otley-rd., Bradford.
Stanley, J., 3, Clifton Wood-cres., Bristol.
Stevenson, J., 31, Cartside-st., Langside, Glasgow.
Styles, F., Downley Common, nr. High Wycombe.
Scott, J. R. G., Welwyn, Matlock-rd., Leyton.
Tasker, J., 1, Etna Villas, W. Malvern, Worcestershire.
Thomas, A., 35, Dorchester-grove, Chiswick, W.
Thrustans, Miss T., Victoria Hotel, Worthing, Sussex.
Tong, P., 20, Farr-rd., Enfield, Middx.
Ward, H., 33, Britannia-st., Leek, Staffs.
Walker, A., 60, Cardigan-rd., Bow, E.
Wallace, J., 34, Barnes-st., Barrhead, nr. Glasgow.
Walker, V., 43, Southcote-rd., Blackhorse-rd., Walthamstow.
Watts, A., 7, Camden-gdns., Shepherd's Bush, W.
Webb, A., 34, Flanders-rd., Bedford Park, W.
Wells, W., 95, Walton-st., Hull.
West, S., 219, Chamberlayne-rd., Eastleigh, Hants.
Wheller, F., "Lynden," Sandbanks-rd., Parkstone, Dorset.
White, A., 35, Elerslie-rd., Clapham, S.W.
White, C., St. Neots, Hunts.
Whitehurst, J., 25, Tellwright-st., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent.
Whiting, T., 12, Stanmore-st., St. Michaels-lane, Leeds.
Williams, A., 166, London-rd., Reading.
Williams, I., Pontglas, Ystradgynlais, S. Wales
Wilson, R., Lyndale, Wexham-rd., Slough, Bucks.
Wilson, W., 22 South Castle-st., Cullen, Banffshire, N.B.
Wood, G., 4, Cross, Cupar, Fife.
Wright, Miss S., 345, Commercial-rd., Portsmouth, Hants.
Wright, P., 64, Wordsworth-rd., Small Heath, Birmingham.
Wadley, Miss H., 65, Bishops-rd., Bayswater, W.
Walsh, L., 64, Palteney-st., Bath.
Warwick, Mrs., 11, Wellington Park-ave., Belfast.
Welburn, P., 223, Roundhay-rd., Leeds.
Wilson, F. N., Fonthill, The Common, Tunbridge Wells.
Wilson, C., Kenmuir, Cornhill-rd., Aberdeen.

Complete List of 3,000 Winners of Valuable Prizes can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

As announced here a week or two ago, such effective opposition had been raised to the Betting Inducements Bill that there was no chance of it becoming law this session. This week, however, the Bishop of Hereford has made that assurance doubly sure by giving notice of drastic amendments he wishes inserted in the Bill, the effect of such amendments being that if inserted the authors of the Bill wouldn't know it for their own. He wishes to make it an offence for any newspaper to publish selections for races or to give any details of the betting market or starting prices. The very fact that he has given notice of these amendments has hung the Bill up for a fortnight, and now it is as surely doomed as is the prize animal at a Christmas cattle show. There is one thing to be said for the Bishop—he fights openly. Others of the faddists would have been quite content to see the Bill go through in its original form, and then to have tested at law all sorts of things that they thought could have been read into it.

Sport last week showed considerable improvement, and both at Newbury and Kempton things were quite lively. Bernstein further proved his possession of great jumping ability by his easy win in the Berkshire Hurdle, and he will presently make a fine 'chaser. Strangely enough, at Kempton, on Friday, Henry Winkfield and General Fox each won the same race as they did on the corresponding day last year, but whereas General Fox has won numerous races during the interval, Henry Winkfield was making his first subsequent appearance in winning colours. Celerity, Forkhill, and Midas should early be seen winning in steeplechases, whilst hurdle races in the near future should fall to the share of Flying Loris, Tweedledum, and Vedrines. These six should be well worth following during the next week or two.

Prophetic.

Nottingham having been disposed of on Monday and Tuesday, Folkestone and Windsor are the remaining fixtures this week. To-day (Wednesday) at Folkestone, Cosy looks like taking the Westenhanger Hurdle, and it really looks that this time luck must favour Midas and enable him to win the Folkestone Steeplechase. Toiler, twice recently unluckily beaten, ought to be good for the Novices Hurdle. On Thursday, follow Midas if he is kept for the Moderate Steeplechase, and from whichever race he absents himself, transfer your allegiance to Violet Charlesworth. The Moderate Hurdle looks rather good for

St. Austle.

At Windsor, on Friday, Flying Loris must very nearly win the Eton Hurdle. The running of Agnes M. at Kempton points to the chance of Periwinkle II. in the Datchet Steeplechase, whilst perhaps the best thing of the meeting is

Sister of Mercy

for the Mill Hurdle. On Saturday, back Vedrines if he is slipped for the Englefield Hurdle, and we must follow Clondalkin in the Castle Steeplechase. Ballyhist can hardly lose the Five-Year-Old Maiden Steeplechase, but the best thing of the day is Grive for the Club Steeplechase.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The Turf Pool Syndicate (Geneva, Switzerland).—Palatine.—A representative of this Syndicate has placed before us full information upon various points raised by us in the course of our Swiss tour in September last, and has satisfied us that its sweepstakes are being conducted upon straightforward and honest lines, and that, having regard to the large number of subscribers, it should be in a position to distribute substantial prizes.

Football.—H. G. (Strand).—The general rule is that if matches are abandoned the bet is off; but everything depends upon the bookmaker's conditions. It does not matter that the abandoned games are afterwards played.

Leonard Stirling.—Silo.—We know nothing of this man.

Smallman and Terry (Geneva).—H. H. (Islington), W. C. (Exmouth). Sell.—A highly respectable firm.

Union Jack Sweepstakes.—A. R. A. (Reading).—You can obtain full information from Mr. H. Diamond, Lucerne, Switzerland.—H. G. (Croydon).—Perfectly genuine.

Athletic Publishing Co. (Copenhagen).—Painful.—We have repeatedly stated that these people are "wrong 'uns." Have nothing to do with the Albion Bank, Basle.

G. and W. Peters (Twickenham).—F. S. H. (Petworth).—From the facts you have placed before us it is perfectly clear that you are entitled to your money. As we have already told you, we have had other complaints.

Albion Bank (Basle).—Cany.—Have nothing to do with them.

Football Competitions.—Anxious (Trowbridge.—If you had read our journal carefully you would note that we have dealt with each of the firms you mention.

"John Bull" Derby Sweepstake.—W. P. (Liverpool), E. S. (Coventry), H. J. D. (Reading), and others.—This project is well under consideration, and we hope to be in a position to make a definite announcement regarding it within the next few weeks.

Collins and Co. (Liverpool).—Alpha (Egremont) complains of his dealings with this firm, apparently with good cause.

A "SPORTING" OFFER.

Our friend, Mr. Alexis Moreton Mandeville has not lost his "form." In the weekly journal which he has recently established, he announces a competition which is certainly unique. His readers are to handicap six of the Lincoln horses for a "prize" of £200—and the winner is then to have that sum to nothing on whichever horse in the race he cares to select, and which amount the ever alert Alexis will be able to "cover" easily by the outlay of a few sovereigns at the market price. Wonderful!

AS IT SHOULD BE—"JOHN BULL" AN EASY FIRST.

A record has been kept of the Football Selections given by various papers, and published by us each week up to the end of January. It is very gratifying to be able to record that in the matter of giving winners John Bull leads his nearest competitor by 11 correct results. If you see it in John Bull, etc.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

SECOND ROUND (English Cup), Matches to be played Saturday, 1st February, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

Matches played on ground of first-named team.	JOHN BULL	Lloyd's Weekly.	London Mail.	Weekly Dispatch.	Umpire.	Sporting Life.	Football Guide.
MANCHESTER CITY v. SUNDERLAND	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home
PLYMOUTH ARGYLE v. MANCHESTER UNITED	Draw	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Draw	Draw
BRIGHTON AND HOVE v. EVERTON	Home	Draw	Away	Draw	Away	Draw	Draw
BRADFORD v. WOLVERHAMPTON W.	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Home
BARNSLEY v. BLACKBURN ROVERS	Home	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Draw
HULL CITY v. NEWCASTLE UNITED	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Away	Away	Away
ASTON VILLA v. WEST HAM UNITED	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
HUDDERSFIELD v. SWINDON	Home	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Home
OLDHAM ATHLETIC v. NOTTS FOREST	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
BRISTOL ROVERS v. NORWICH CITY	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
WOOLWICH ARSENAL v. LIVERPOOL	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Draw	Away
READING v. TOTTENHAM 'SPURS	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Hom	Draw
CHELSEA v. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	Home	Away	Draw	Away	Away	Draw	Draw
CRYSTAL PALACE v. BURY	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home
MIDDLESBRO' v. QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home
BURNLEY v. BARNSLEY TRINITY	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home

Home signifies first mentioned team to win—Away second mentioned team to win.

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	JAN. 11	JAN. 18		JAN. 11	JAN. 18		JAN. 11	JAN. 18
2H.	EVENS	6 TO 4	6H.	11 TO 1	15 TO 1	3H. 1A.	7 TO 1	7 TO 1
3H.	6 TO 4	5 TO 2	7H.	28 TO 1	26 TO 1	4H. 1A.	16 TO 1	10 TO 1
4H.	4 TO 1	4 TO 1	1H. 1A.	3 TO 1	4 TO 1	1 DRAW	4 TO 1	7 TO 1
5H.	5 TO 1	6 TO 1	2H. 1A.	6 TO 1	5 TO 1	2 DWS	7 TO 1	11 TO 2

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LONDON'S SWEATED WOMEN and GIRL WORKERS.

HOW THE GOOD NEWS OF "JOHN BULL" READERS' SYMPATHY AND HELP IS BEING RECEIVED.

A FAMILY WORKING DAY AND NIGHT TO EARN 7s. 6d. PER WEEK.

Photographic evidence is now being taken of the shocking conditions under which thousands of London women and girl workers are being sweated into disease, dishonour or death.

One photograph now being widely circulated shows a family hard at work. In this case the sweater leaves his sweated workers to pay the rent—out of 7s. 6d. per week earnings for the whole family.

The workers themselves showed no desire to pose for the photographer. They dared not. The work must be done and delivered to time, or there would be a week's delay in the payment of the paltry pittance of 7s. 6d. for a whole week's travail of body, mind and soul. The faces of the women and children speak louder than words of the want of good food, fresh air and a share of the happiness of life.

Away from this Terrible Underworld.

Here is a plan whereby "John Bull" readers can render the most practical help. The plan will take the younger women and girl workers right away from the terrible underworld of the sweated worker, train them for and place them on to a higher plane of life.

The credit for this most practical plan for rescuing women and girls from the evils of sweating is due to the British Federation for the Emancipation of Women. The President of the Federation is Dr. Beale Collins; the Vice-Presidents Rev. A. J. Waldron (Vicar of Brixton), and Captain A. M. Cockshott, A.S.C.; Founder and Director, Mr. W. Belcher, of "Marken," Surbiton; London Commissioner, Rev. W. Thornton Burke; Special Commissioner, Mr. John Lindsay; and International Commissioner, Mr. Ardeen Foster.

The good news that a body of earnest social workers are working for their relief is gladdening the hearts of thousands of hitherto despairing women and girl workers.

A Haven of Hope in the East End.

Our readers now have the opportunity of helping to make an important advance in the work. The British Federation have in prospect the opening of a Home in the East-End of London that shall serve as a centre of Hope and Charity. Here it is proposed to establish as a Resident Commissioner some clergyman or minister whom the Committee deem the most suited to the work. Already there are volunteers for this work, gentlemen well fitted by experience and character to shoulder the noble responsibilities of the post. Ladies have also offered to assist as Reporting Visitors and on the Home Committee.

There is no lack of human help, happily. The one thing lacking is money. With a Fund of £50,000 wonderful work might be done. There could be homes in the Country or at the Seaside as well as the one in London.

The latter would serve as a central home for dealing with matters upon the spot. Here, girls desirous of escaping from their surroundings would be received and forwarded to one of the out-of-London Training Homes.

In every case two or three weeks' absolute rest is required to re-establish the health and spirits of these poor girls. A period of four months' care and training would serve to equip a girl to take a situation in domestic service. There is an ever-growing demand for domestic servants, especially those trained to fulfil their duties properly. It is anticipated that there would never be any girls waiting for situations.

Will you Help this Noble Work?

Two or three pounds may suffice to save a human soul from going down into the uttermost depths of disease, dishonour or death.

What finer, nobler act could any reader do than render the help which may save a woman or girl from such a fate?

Among the Readers of JOHN BULL there are many Good Samaritans. Among those who are helping the British Federation with money and influence are many of Britain's titled families, as well as those whose brows do not bear the coronet, but whose hearts are nevertheless noble in good-will towards the cause that is being pressed forward by the British Federation.

It is more blessed to give than to receive. Have you experienced the spiritual sunshine of compassion within your heart? Do so to-day. Sit down now. Write a cheque or send a postal order that will be as a tithe of Thankfulness for the good things of your life. You are judge and jury too in the matter of the amount that the goodness of your heart will decide. Here for your convenience is a Donation Form. Fill in, cut out, and send it to-day before your kindly thought is driven away by the pressure of other things.

"JOHN BULL" DONATION FORM.

To the Secretary (Mr. W. H. Bedbrook),
British Federation for the Emancipation of Women,
95, New Bond Street, London, W.

Sir,

I would like to help forward the work of relief and rescue of poor sweated women and girl workers, and enclose Cheque, Postal Order for ....

Please send receipt, and also particulars of the work of the Federation from time to time.

Name.....
(State if Mr., Mrs., or Miss, or Title.)

Address.....

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